

## GCC supports U.N. peace call

RIYADH (AP) — Foreign Ministers of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) ended a two-day conference Wednesday by urging Iran to respond to United Nations peace efforts to end the Gulf war. They voiced "deep concern over the 'grave escalation' in fighting between Iran and Iraq and praised Baghdad for making an end to the conflict. The ministers expressed hope that Iran would respond to the "will of the international community" and accept U.N. Security Council resolutions for a ceasefire and negotiated settlement. In a statement, the ministers supported U.N. resolutions calling for an immediate ceasefire and withdrawal of forces to the pre-war international border. "The GCC is eager to see a peaceful end to this destructive war... to secure the legitimate rights of the two parties, in harmony with the GCC policy of backing the peace bids being exerted by the various organisations and international bodies and in pursuit of its efforts to lessen the dangers that threaten peace and security in the region," the statement said.

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## U.S.: Lebanon will remain isolated

WASHINGTON (R) — Lebanon will remain isolated from the world at large until the Lebanese people rid their country of the anarchy now taking place in the streets of Beirut, the U.S. State Department said Wednesday. In the latest of a series of increasingly blunt statements, spokesman Charles Redman stressed the responsibility Lebanon itself bears for ending factional violence and ousting foreign forces. The raging violence engulfing Beirut "is deplorable but there will be no end to it until the people of Beirut and Lebanon as a whole take up their responsibilities as a civilised community to overcome the chaos and factional strife besetting the country," he said. "Until the Lebanese move to rid their country of the type of brutal anarchy now going on in the streets of Beirut and in other parts of Lebanon, they will remain isolated from the world at large," he added. As long as factional violence prevails, Lebanon "will be fertile ground for outside influences to exploit," he said.

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## King visits army units

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordan Armed Forces, accompanied by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker on Wednesday visited the Fifth Royal Armoured Division and the 12th Royal Mechanised Division. The King was received upon his arrival by the divisions' commanders and high-ranking officers. King Hussein conferred with the divisions' commanders and was briefed by them on the progress of training and administrative issues.

## Kingdom's insignia to be changed

AMMAN (Petra) — The official insignia for the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan will be amended upon directives from His Majesty King Hussein, according to a statement issued by the Prime Ministry on Wednesday. The statement said that the insignia comprises of the crown, a sash on which the crown rests, two banners, an eagle which signifies the banner of the Prophet Muhammad, a globe in blue colour, the coat of arms which consists of shield, sword, spear and bow and arrow, three golden corn ears and palm leaves, the Al Nahda Decoration of the First Order and a yellow cord hanging from the sash.

## Jordan-N. Yemeni talks conclude

AMMAN (Petra) — The Joint Jordanian-North Yemeni Committee ended meetings in Amman on Wednesday and resolutions and recommendations designed to bolster cooperation between the two countries in different fields. The committee, which had been holding meetings in the past two days, met for a final session at the Foreign Ministry on Wednesday under the co-chairmanship of Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and North Yemeni Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Iryani. The committee is due to issue the final statement on Thursday. (Earlier story on page 3).

## Khatib leaves for Baghdad

AMMAN (Petra) — Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib left for Baghdad on Wednesday on a two-day official visit to Iraq. During his stay there, Mr. Khatib will hold discussions with his Iraqi counterpart Latif Jassem. The minister is accompanied on his visit by Director of the Department for Culture and Arts Haidar Mahmoud, Mr. Ali Al Safadi, director of the Jordan News Agency, Petra, and Mr. Issam Arida, director of Radio Jordan.

## Reagan confirms Webb's nomination

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan said Wednesday he would nominate James H. Webb, a best-selling author and assistant secretary of defence for reserve affairs, to succeed John F. Lehman as secretary of the Navy. Mr. Lehman made his resignation formal Tuesday, declaring both the navy and marine corps to be in "very good shape." Mr. Webb declined to discuss his plans with reporters Tuesday. But officials, speaking on condition they not be named, said Defence Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger had prevailed upon him to scuttle his retirement plans.

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# King: U.S. has lost all credibility in Arab World

Agency dispatches

**HIS MAJESTY King Hussein said in remarks published on Wednesday that the U.S. had lost all credibility in the Arab World because of its arms sales to Iran.**

In an interview published in the Financial Times of London, the King also dismissed declarations by Washington that it wanted to help settle the Middle East conflict. There was no sign of this in practice, he said.

Referring to the U.S. arms sales to Iran, the King said he was "more than shocked," and added:

"The U.S. has lost its credibility in this area totally. What has been revealed is diametrically opposed to every assurance I

have received.

"I had been told that the Americans would do everything in their power to prevent the supply of arms to Iran and thus the continuation of the Gulf war. The last thing that one ever expected was that the U.S. would augment the military machine of Iran which has refused to respond to any call to end this war."

He said the supplies had shifted the delicate balance of forces in Iran's favour in its war with Iraq. There was little point in him

accepting an invitation to visit Washington for talks with President Ronald Reagan next month, the King said. He indicated his intention instead of seeking closer defence cooperation with countries in Western Europe.

"We have not asked for any arms from the U.S. I have really every inclination to look at the possibility of greater cooperation with Europe in the area of defence requirements," he said.

On Washington's role in the Israeli-Arab conflict, he said: "I have been assured they are interested in resolving the Arab-Israeli problem. But I have not seen any manifestation of that."

The interview was conducted in Amman for the Financial Times by Roger Mathews and Andrew Gowers.

## Spain ready to supply arms to Jordan as and when asked

By Rana Sabbagh  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Spanish Defence Minister Marce Serra said on Wednesday his country was ready to supply arms to Jordan whenever the Kingdom made such requests.

Spain has always responded positively to Jordan's request for defence equipment since "we understand the situation in the area," said Dr. Serra in a press conference capping his three-day visit which ends Thursday.

He said although Spain maintains an embargo against arms sales to Iraq, Iran, Libya and Syria, "there are no restrictions whatsoever on weapon supplies to Jordan."

Dr. Serra, 44, who arrived here from Saudi Arabia on Tuesday at the head of a six-member military

delegation, was received by His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker also held talks with the Spanish minister.

Replying to a question, the minister said that the first batch of 16 CASA C101 trainer aircraft Jordan ordered from Spain in 1985 were expected to arrive here "this May or June." The \$90 million aircraft deal was signed here on Dec. 24, 1985. Dr. Serra said the package was "prepared in a very favourable financial scheme." Spain, he said, is ready for similar financial arrangements to cover future supplies of equipment to Jordan.

He termed the C101 planes as a "strong aircraft adapted for training."

Asked whether his talks here

covered possible Spanish arms sales to Jordan, Dr. Serra said: "I am not in Jordan as an arms dealer but as a member of my government." However, he said, "my country will be very happy if we can further strengthen the existing ties" between the air forces of the two countries.

Dr. Serra said Jordanian-Spanish cooperation in the field of defence also included exchange of visits by military delegations and trainees.

Replying to another question, Dr. Serra said Spain had no military cooperation programmes with Israel and that he "foresees no future relationship between the two countries in this field."

"Our relations with Israel are limited to the areas of politics, economics and culture," he said.

## Shamir ready to go to elections to block international conference

### Peres challenges Shamir

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres again voiced support on Wednesday for an international peace conference on the Middle East despite Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's adamant rejection of the idea in Washington.

"The truth is that for two-and-a-half years, we have been conducting a policy of direct negotiations to be achieved by means of an international conference," Mr. Peres told armed forces radio.

Mr. Peres said: "I spoke about this four times in parliament, with (Egyptian) President Hosni Mubarak in Alexandria and if it is so dangerous they (Likud) should have stopped me."

any of (them), including an international conference, would lead immediately to direct negotiations."

Mr. Shamir told the reporters: "I trust the United States will not agree to substitute (direct negotiations) for Soviet-inspired notions supported by 'radical' Arab Nations, such as an international conference."

Mr. Shamir was to meet President Reagan on Wednesday hav-

ing dumped unceremoniously the latest U.S. idea on Middle East peace talks.

Mr. Shamir's trenchant opposition to the idea of an international conference appeared to scotch the idea, at least for the moment.

Mr. Shamir's opposition, despite his own foreign ministry's readiness to pursue the proposal, meant progress in the near future

## Haughey heads for narrow win

DUBLIN (R) — Opposition leader Charles Haughey headed for victory on Wednesday in the Irish general election but he could just fail to clinch an overall majority and be forced to settle for a minority government, according to unofficial estimates from party workers.

Mr. Haughey, 61, bidding to be Irish prime minister for the third time, said: "There's nothing definite at this stage but all our calculations are that we are on target for a majority."

The Fianna Fail leader needs 84 seats for an overall majority and tallymen, the party workers who monitor vote-counting, forecast that he would win 82-85 seats.

All tallymen agreed that Prime Minister Garret Fitzgerald's ruling Fine Gael party was doomed to defeat while the new break-away Progressive Democrats, led by Fianna Fail dissident Desmond O'Malley, could win up to 14 seats.

## Mubarak lauds Egypt-Sudan kinship after meeting Mahdi

CAIRO (Agencies) — Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi had talks with President Hosni Mubarak on Wednesday in a visit aimed at improving relations that soured after Sudan befriended Libya and Egypt gave asylum to ousted Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri.

Mr. Mubarak received Mr. Mahdi immediately after his arrival from the Sudanese capital Khartoum for a five-day visit, his first since taking office last April.

The two leaders were closeted for an hour in Mr. Mubarak's office at the presidential Kubbah Palace, and Mr. Mubarak later was host at a working lunch.

Mr. Mahdi left the palace without talking to reporters. In remarks after he left, however, Mr. Mubarak glossed over differences between the two countries that delayed the prime minister's visit several times.

Describing the talks as positive, Mr. Mubarak said in reply to a question about disagreements:

## Prince Hassan emphasises need for balanced national education strategy

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Wednesday called on the Council of Education to study carefully to the needs of the Jordanian society while preparing programmes and working out plans for developing the educational system in the Kingdom.

Prince Hassan, who was addressing a special meeting of the council to discuss a report by the council's education policy committee, said "the psychological stability of a society is of vital significance; and the Jordanian society is looking forward to a well-planned strategy in education that can enable it to deal with different circumstances and developments for the coming two decades."

"The present education strategy and the imbalances in the work force and employment in the country have warranted the formation of a special work team with diverse specialisations to work out an educational strategy for Jordan's future," Prince Hassan said.

He said the team comprises of

experts in economics and planning, as well as educationalists "who can put together a comprehensive strategy that can cater for the country's requirements."

Prince Hassan said the team had been working over the past nine months and had submitted its report to the council which would work out recommendations that would meet the country's educational needs, taking into consideration different factors and flexible enough to serve

(Continued on page 4)

## Arab taxidriver killed after running down 2 Israeli soldiers

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian taxidriver was killed on Wednesday after he ran down and injured two Israeli soldiers on the 10th consecutive day of protests in the occupied West Bank.

"Eyewitnesses said he was trying to kill the soldiers. Afterwards, he lost control and hit a wall and died as a result of the collision," an army spokesman said.

Meanwhile, all five Arab universities and three colleges in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip were closed Wednesday as the wave of anti-Israeli protests went into its tenth day.

The Palestine Press Service, which monitors events in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, said the taxidriver was killed

by Israeli gunfire and his car was riddled with bullets.

The press service said three other Palestinians were also wounded in the Israeli gunfire. It said the three were either passengers in the taxi or by-standers, and one was hospitalised with a rubber bullet wound.

"The driver swerved sharply off the road and hit two (soldiers)... on the face of it, it looks like it was a deliberate attempt to hit them," said Ehud Barak, head of the Israeli army's central command.

The patrol was walking alongside a road skirting the Askar refugee camp near Nablus, the largest town in the West Bank with a population of 100,000. Barak told Israel Radio other soldiers in the patrol opened fire

on the taxi when they saw what happened.

"The driver hit a school wall, got out of the car and tried to throw stones, then collapsed," said Barak.

The driver was identified by Palestinian sources as Samih Ibrahim Kharousheh, 34, a resident of the Askar camp.

In Nablus, Palestinians stoned a paramilitary police patrol, sources said. No one was hurt and the attackers escaped.

A petrol bomb was thrown at an Israeli car near the Jewish settlement of Alfei Menashe, but there were no injuries, Israel Radio reported.

The recent wave of protests began last week after Palestinians

(Continued on page 4)

## Amal says it lifted siege

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia said Wednesday it had lifted a four-month siege of three Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

Amal sources told Reuters it had ended blockades of Beirut's Bourj Al Barajneh and Shatila camps and Rashidiyeh camp in southern Lebanon on orders from Amal leader Nabih Berri in Damascus.

"Some Palestinian refugees left Bourj Al Barajneh after the siege was lifted to buy some goods," one source said.

Asked if the blockades were only partially lifted, he said: "The orders did not specify a time limit for the refugees to leave or enter the camp so it is a complete lift."

Reporters and photographers were unable to go to the camps on Beirut's southern outskirts as fierce street battles raged in the west of the city between Amal, the Communists and the Progressive Socialist Party.

Witnesses in the southern port of Tyre told Reuters Amal militiamen had also lifted the siege of Rashidiyeh and scores of refugees streamed out to the town.

Mr. Berri said Tuesday that Amal's food and medicine blockade of Palestinian refugee camps in west Beirut and southern Lebanon would be lifted Wednesday.

However, a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official told AP in Baghdad that there was no evidence the siege had been lifted by Wednesday afternoon.

The official said the PLO initially had welcomed Mr. Berri's announcement he would lift the siege.

He, however, said "we don't believe Berri is sincere."

An Amal official in Tyre told Reuters Rashidiyeh would be open daily between eight a.m. and three p.m.

Palestinian sources in Lebanon were not immediately available for comment and it was not independently confirmed whether Amal militiamen had withdrawn from positions around the settlements, Reuters said.

Scores of refugees who fled Bourj Al Barajneh over the past few days said they ate cats and dogs to survive.

## Syrian warning and Karami's threat fail to quell militia war

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Battles between rival militias "raged across west Beirut on Wednesday amid reports that prime minister Rashid Karami had threatened to resign and Syria planned to send in more troops."

Many buildings were ablaze as street battles surged back and forth despite fresh calls for a truce, residents said, and artillery shells had crashed into most residential and commercial areas of the Lebanese capital's western sector.

Local radios said a Syrian-led security force would take to the streets with "shoot to kill" orders to try to end the close-quarter combat between leftists and Shi'ite Muslims.

Residents said scores of leftist

fighters converged on the 40-storey Murr Tower, exchanging fusillades of tracer bullet and rocket-propelled grenade fire in a bid to dislodge Shi'ite Amal militiamen from their vantage point.

Political sources told Reuters that Mr. Karami, Education Minister Selim Hoss and Parliament Speaker Hussein Hussein had told Syrian officials they would quit unless the battle for control of west Beirut was stopped.

The sources also said Damascus planned to send large military contingents to the western sector once the fighting eased and leaders of the warring militias returned to Beirut.

Amal sources told Reuters that the militia lifted its 18-week siege

## Iraq halts air raids

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq on Wednesday announced a two-week halt to air raids on Iranian towns and cities but said it would be free to launch fresh strikes if Iran hit residential areas or attacked Iraqi territory.

The announcement, read over Baghdad Radio, said the halt would take effect from 0900 GMT on Thursday.

The radio said the move followed an appeal by Baghdad-based Iranian opposition leader Massoud Rajavi to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

It said Mr. Rajavi, leader of the Mujahadeen-e-Khalq organisation, asked President Hussein to halt the air raids "in the name of the struggling masses against the aggressive Iranian regime."

It said the halt would cover only towns and cities, not military targets, targets directly or indirectly related to Iran's war effort, troop concentrations and economic targets.

Iraq has made almost daily air raids on targets in Iranian towns and cities since Jan. 9, when Tehran launched a cross-border thrust towards the southern Iraqi city of Basra.

Iraq has said more than 3,000 of its people have been killed and 9,000 injured in the raids.

Wednesday's announcement came only 30 minutes after a military spokesman in Baghdad said Iraqi warplanes attacked targets in six Iranian towns and cities.

## Amnesty Int'l assails U.S.

NEW YORK (R) — Amnesty International, charging the United States is one of five countries that "executes juvenile killers, has attacked the U.S. death penalty as arbitrary, racially biased and a violation of international accords."

The human rights organisation said the death penalty in the United States had become "a horrifying lottery," in which politics, money, race and where the crime was committed could decide whether a defendant went to the death chamber.

In a harsh indictment of the U.S. judicial system, Amnesty deplored the fact that several people executed or awaiting the death penalty were mentally ill or were under the age of 18.

"The imposition of death sent-

ences on people who were under 18 at the time of the crime is a clear violation of international treaties and guidelines" the organisation said in a 245-page report on capital punishment in the U.S.

Such restrictions were included in the international covenant on civil and political rights and the American convention on human rights, both signed by the U.S. in 1977.

Amnesty said three teenage killers were executed between September 1985 and May 1986.

"These executions put the USA out of line with most other death penalty countries which do not execute people who were minors at the time of the crime," the report said.

## Gates pledges no repetition of CIA mistakes over Iran

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Robert Gates, seeking Senate approval of his nomination to head the CIA, has acknowledged serious errors in the U.S. spy agency's handling of undercover Iran arms deals and promised to guard against similar failures.

But during more than five hours of testimony on Tuesday before an often sceptical Senate Intelligence Committee, Mr. Gates defended his decision not to tell Congress last year of the diversion of proceeds to Nicaraguan rebels.

"I regarded what little information I had as worrisome, but extraordinarily flimsy," said Mr. Gates, who faced a second round of tough questions from Senators

later Wednesday. "It would have been irresponsible to report this flimsy speculation."

Mr. Gates, who has served as acting Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) chief since December when William Casey underwent brain surgery, said he was first alerted last Oct. 1 that funds from President Ronald Reagan's covert arms sales to Iran could have been diverted to the rebels called contras.

Mr. Gates, 43, who was quizzed by Senators on Tuesday on his knowledge of both the Iran arms sales and the contra diversion, would be the intelligence agency's youngest chief if confirmed by the Senate.

## Arafat hints at dropping 'Cairo Declaration'

CAIRO (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat hinted in an interview published on Wednesday that he might scrap the 1985 "Cairo Declaration" in which he pledged to halt attacks on Israeli targets abroad.

"I ask, can the Cairo Declaration remain valid if it is respected by one side only? he told the Egyptian weekly Al-Mussawwar. "If Israel believes this is so, then I say no, a thousand times no... patience has its limits."

Mr. Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), listed a series of attacks by Israel on Palestinians, including the seizure of a ship last week which Israel said was taking fighters to refugee camps.

"The interview was conducted in Algiers before Shi'ite leader Nabih Berri announced that his Amal militia was lifting its four-month siege of Palestinian camps in Lebanon."

Mr. Arafat asked whether the Cairo Declaration was relevant "at a time when Palestinian camps are being massacred, the Israeli navy is imposing a blockade on foods and medicines destined for the camps."

He issued the declaration, saying he would order his fighters to limit attacks to Israelis in the occupied Arab territories, in November 1985 after talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.



## Gemayel 'advised' Waite against going to Beirut

KUWAIT (AP) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel said he held Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite responsible for the consequences of acting against his advice and going to Lebanon, a newspaper reported Wednesday.

"The Lebanese state advised Waite not to travel to Beirut, but he opted for a different decision," Mr. Gemayel said in an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Anbaa.

The newspaper did not give details of when or how the advice was given to Mr. Waite, who has not been seen publicly since he left his Beirut hotel on Jan. 20 to negotiate with kidnappers of foreign hostages.

Mr. Gemayel, who was interviewed in London, lashed out at states he did not name for "dealing with Lebanese militia." He was apparently alluding to recent contacts with kidnappers of Western hostages by Mr. Waite and unspecified emissaries from Western capitals.

"I do not understand why some states opted to deal with militias," he said.

Mr. Gemayel said that his current European tour was aimed at "convincing Europeans that the Lebanese legitimate authority is their sole option in Lebanon, because legitimacy, despite its weakness, remains the strongest

individual force in Lebanon."

He complained that Western countries were asking him for "assurances" about the fate of their nationals held hostage, saying "but such assurances will remain absent until the removal of the free zones of terrorism which export terrorism to the world." He was not specific.

"The world has to know that dealing with militias will serve neither Lebanon nor those states which deal with militias," he said.

Mr. Gemayel denied reports that he had asked King Hussein to dispatch troops to Lebanon to attempt to enforce security in Beirut, but said the Jordanian monarch had taken up the issue with Syrian President Hafez Assad.

He described his own meeting with Mr. Assad on the fringes of the pan-Islamic summit conference in Kuwait last month as "positive," saying "a special relationship exists between Lebanon and Syria because of the geographical proximity and historical links."

Mr. Gemayel also said his

country maintained strong links with the Gulf Arab states led by Saudi Arabia.

He denounced the war waged by the Amal militia against Palestinian camps in Lebanon. "The fighting against the camps, like any other shedding of Arab blood over Lebanese territory, should be condemned and denounced," he said.

"Lebanon as an Arab country considers the Palestinian question the pivotal pan-Arab cause," he said.

Mr. Gemayel appealed to Europe for urgent aid similar to the American-sponsored Marshall Plan to reconstruct the European economy after the World War II.

Mr. Gemayel said a Marshall Plan was needed "now, and not tomorrow" for his war-torn country. "If they (European states) do not help Lebanon now, at what time will they help it?"

He said he had visited Arab countries to seek political and economic support for Lebanon, but gave no details of whom he approached or of the response.

Mr. Gemayel said he was seeking political backing from East to West, and especially from member states of the United Nations Security Council, to ensure a permanent withdrawal by Israeli forces from South Lebanon.

## Mousavi: TV satire will damage ties with Bonn

LONDON (R) — Iranian Prime Minister Mr. Hossein Mousavi said Wednesday a West German television satire on Iran's spiritual leader would have extremely unfavourable effects on relations between the two countries, Tehran Radio reported.

The radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), said Mr. Mousavi described the programme satirising Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini as a hostile action on the part of Bonn.

The BBC also reported the Iranian News Agency IRNA as saying the authorities Wednesday closed down West Germany's Goethe Institute — a cultural centre — in Tehran after expelling two Bonn diplomats in retaliation for the programme.

The programme aired on Sunday depicted Khomeini receiving gifts of women's underwear on the eighth anniversary of the Islamic revolution earlier this month.

"This hostile action by the German government, which stems from its racist and fascist policies, will naturally lead to the anger of Muslim nations. It has had extremely unfavourable effects on relations between the two countries."

He said the screening of the satire would lead to "fundamental decisions relating to cultural, economic and political relations" with West Germany.

IRNA, reporting the closing of the Goethe Institute, quoted an Information Ministry statement as saying the programme was "an open insult to the sanctities of the Islamic revolution of Iran."

Tehran Radio said a Parliamentary Commerce Committee had demanded a formal apology from Bonn, or else trade and economic links could suffer.

In a dispatch from Bonn, IRNA said Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Javad Salari lodged a strong protest with the government there Tuesday.

The agency quoted West German Deputy Foreign Minister Jorgens Molemann as expressing the government's regret and saying it control over radio and television was limited.

## U.S. congressman ends Iraq visit

BAGHDAD (R) — U.S. Congressman Bob Torricelli Wednesday ended a four-day visit to Baghdad during which he urged Western nations to tilt their policies in the 6½-year-old Iran-Iraq war towards Iraq.

Mr. Torricelli, a New Jersey Democrat, said in a departure statement he was convinced that the United States and Iraq shared important interests in the Gulf region, most importantly in ensuring its long-term security and development.

He expressed hope that exchanges would continue between U.S. and Iraqi officials "so that we can work together to bring this terrible conflict, already the longest war of this century, to a rapid conclusion."

Mr. Torricelli told reporters earlier that American and European interests coincided in wanting to prevent an Iranian victory in the war.

Iran posed a threat not only to Iraq but also to other countries in

the Gulf region which provided a large proportion of the West's oil, he said.

Mr. Torricelli, a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, held talks with First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan, Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz and Oil Minister Qassem Ahmad Taqi.

He was the first U.S. Congressman to visit Baghdad since the row over secret U.S. arms shipments to Iran erupted last year.

## Libyan TV shows executions of 9 people

LONDON (Agencies) — Libyan television broadcast the execution of nine people — six by hanging and three by firing squad — and said some of those killed had plotted to assassinate "Soviet experts" in Libya.

The broadcast, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), did not make clear whether any of the assassination plots had succeeded.

As the executions were shown an official of Benghazi People's Congress read out the sentences, which had been passed by the "Revolutionary Court."

One of the six who were hanged had taken part in "a number of meetings with the intention of assassinating Soviet experts," the Libyan broadcast said, and he and another had taken part in a meeting "in which the resolution to assassinate the

Soviet experts was adopted."

Another knew of the group's intention to assassinate Soviet experts and yet another had been selected, "together with a group," to carry out the killings.

Four of those hanged were reported to have been involved in the "Al Jihad" organisation, which was "hostile to the people's authority."

One had been elected the organisation's "Amir" and had taken part in "preparing assassinations and blowing up of important persons and places."

Meanwhile a Libyan opposition leader said Wednesday that nine men executed in Libya represented small resistance cells fighting against Soviet advisers. Abdul Hamid Bakoush, one of Libya's last prime ministers before Col. Qadhafi's coup in 1969, said the nine had no affiliation with anti-Qadhafi groups outside the country.

Mr. Bakoush, who lives in Cairo, heads the Libyan Liberation Organisation. He and other opposition leaders in Egyptian exile have been targets of abortive assassination attempts by alleged Col. Qadhafi agents.

"I believe that these men belonged to separate small resistance groups, which have no connection with any (opposition) groups outside of Libya," Mr. Bakoush told the Associated Press in a telephone interview.

"I think the charges that they were plotting to assassinate Soviet experts are trumped up, because the Libyan opposition does not have time to bother with the Soviets. They have to concentrate their work against Qadhafi."

## Rebels kill 9 Iranian guards

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iranian opposition guerrillas said Wednesday they killed nine government Revolutionary Guards in two attacks in the north eastern city of Mashhad last week.

The People's Mujahadeen said its fighters attacked a detention and "torture" centre in the city on Feb. 11, killing six of the guards.

The day before, guerrillas killed three guards in an attack on a motorised patrol in the city, according to a statement teleaxed to the Associated Press from the Mujahadeen office in Baghdad.

The group, the largest battling the Islamic government of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, said none of its fighters were wounded. It did not say what weapons were used.

The Mujahadeen has reported an increased in attacks on government officials since the beginning of the month.

It said earlier that it killed Ali Iramanesh, whom it described as Khomeini's representative and "one of the principal agents of suppression and war" in the south central city of Kerman.

The Iranian government has confirmed that Hadi Khamenei, the brother of President Ali Khamenei, was wounded in an attack by the Mujahadeen.

## Arabs arrested in U.S. to be released on bail

LOS ANGELES (R) — Seven Arabs and a Kenyan woman accused of being members of a Palestinian commando group were ordered to be released on bail shortly before they were to have faced a deportation hearing.

The U.S. government claims the eight belong to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), which it says advocates Communism. Lawyers for the eight denied Tuesday their clients belonged to the group.

The government is seeking to deport them. The deportation hearing was postponed until April 28. Seven have been in jail since their arrest on Jan. 26 and the eighth was arrested last week.

"We believe this is a test case by which the government, if successful, would allow the Immigra-

tion and Naturalisation Service to target other minorities in the United States," said one of their lawyers, Dan Storrer.

Lawyers for the eight, who have been living in the Los Angeles area, claim they are victims of political persecution.

They say the government is trying to revive a 1952 law which would allow the deportation of anyone accused of being affiliated with an organisation advocating "world Communism."

Immigration Judge Roy Daniel said all eight appeared to have substantial equity in the United States and should be released on bail.

Five were ordered to be released on their own recognisance and the remaining three on bail of \$500, \$2,000 and \$3,000.

## Defence in Demjanjuk trial challenges testimony

TEL AVIV (R) — The defence in the Nazi war crimes trial of John Demjanjuk Wednesday challenged the ability of witnesses to testify accurately on the killing of six million people more than 40 years after the holocaust.

Yitzhak Arad, director of Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial, admitted during cross examination by defence lawyer Mark O'Connor that he was unsure of the exact location of a "hanging tree" and other structures in Treblinka death camp.

Demjanjuk, 66, is accused of killing hundreds of thousands of people at the camp in Nazi-occupied Poland in World War II as a Ukrainian guard nicknamed Ivan the Terrible. The former car worker extradited from the Un-

ited States could face the death penalty if convicted.

Mr. O'Connor said that if Arad, a survivor of the Nazi holocaust and author of a book on Treblinka, was uncertain of details, how could less expert witnesses be expected to give accurate testimony.

Ukrainian-born Demjanjuk says he is a victim of mistaken identity and was never at Treblinka. The prosecution said he operated its gas chambers and tortured inmates.

Asked about his inability to pinpoint various structures at Treblinka, Arad told the court: "Twenty metres north or south was not important to my research. I was not there. I cannot testify about these points."

## British women, held in Cairo, deny knowledge of heroin in luggage

CAIRO (R) — Two British sisters appeared before Egypt's prosecutor-general Wednesday and denied any knowledge of heroin found in their luggage. British embassy officials said.

Marion Arnold, 42, and Maureen Carol Paleschi, 49, from Hampshire, were arrested on Sunday after they flew in from Bucharest and six kilos (13 pounds) of heroin was discovered inside a wooden elephant in their luggage.

The embassy officials quoted them as saying an Egyptian friend gave them the elephant in Karachi and they knew nothing about the heroin, which newspapers say has a street value of \$4

million.

The two women were remanded in custody for a week, with no charges laid, after defence lawyers asked for more time to study the case. They are due to appear in court again on Feb. 25.

Anti-narcotics police arrested Arnold, a mother of three, and Paleschi with at least three Egyptians who met them outside Cairo airport after they had cleared customs.

The semi-official newspaper Al Ahram said on Monday police had been closely watching for six months the movements of what it said was an Egyptian drug smuggling ring with international connections.

Meanwhile two Egyptians were convicted by a Larinaca court in Cyprus Wednesday of supplying half a kilogramme (one pound) of heroin to two Europeans who were imprisoned last month.

Moussa Al Hady Haggag, 26, a restaurateur, was jailed for seven years and Mohamed Dewedar, 35, a mechanical engineer, for five years. They had denied charges of possessing and supplying heroin.

The court last month jailed Walter Wilhelm Schaffer, 40, a businessman from Stuttgart, West Germany, for three and a half years and Diana Mary Ward, 39, from Oxford, England, for two and a half years.

## TV & RADIO

TV & RADIO

# JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

## PROGRAMME ONE

15:30	Koran
15:50	Programme Review and Analysis
15:55	Tom Sawyer
16:20	Children programmes
17:00	Huckley Pantomime
17:35	Local Health programme
18:00	Teaching French
18:30	Local contests programme
19:30	News programme
19:50	Programme Review and Analysis
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic series
21:25	Tomorrow's programmes
21:30	Varieties
21:35	Arabic Series
22:30	News Summary in Arabic
23:10	Film continued

## PROGRAMME TWO

17:30	Champs Elysees
19:00	News in French
19:15	La valle des peupliers
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:00	World Sports
20:30	News in Arabic
20:30	Paul Daniel Show
21:10	Remington Steele
21:30	World Sports
22:30	Feature film: 'The Heart and Davis Affairs'

## RADIO JORDAN

355 KHz. AM & 950 MHz. FM  
& parsons or 850 kHz. SW  
Tel: 77411-19

07:00	Light Music
07:00	Newsweek
08:00	Morning Show
08:00	News Summary
08:05	Morning Show Cont.
11:00	Pop Session
11:10	Billie Holiday: The Story of Motown
11:15	News Summary
12:05	Now Music
13:00	News Summary
13:00	Pop Session
13:05	News Bulletin
14:10	Instrumentals
14:20	Just a Minute
15:00	Concert Hour
15:00	News Summary
16:05	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favourites
17:00	The Musical in Review
19:30	Pop Session
18:00	News Summary
18:05	Special Feature
18:30	Musical
19:00	Musical
19:30	Date with a Star
20:00	Evening Show

21:00	News Summary
21:05	Evening Show Cont.
21:55	News Summary
22:00	Evening Show Cont.
23:00	News Summary
23:05	Evening Show Cont.
23:55	News Hour
24:00	Close Down

## BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 730, 1323 KHz

06:00 Newsline 06:30 Classical Record Review 06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial News 07:00 World News 07:09 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30 'Peoples' Choice' 07:35 World News 07:40 Newsweek 08:30 Masterpiece in Miniature 08:40 The Farming World 09:00 World News 09:09 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30 Sing-Along 09:45 Network 10:10 World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15 International Soccer Special 10:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:35 Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to our Song 12:30 After Heavly 12:50 World News 13:00 News About 13:15 1215 New Issue 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 World Newsline 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Tenary 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Network UK 15:45 Patrick Martyn's Music Box 16:00 Outlook: Opening with News Summary 16:45 News Summary 16:50 World News 17:15 A Jolly Good Show 18:00 World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 Omnibus 18:45 The World Today 18:50 News Summary A Letter from Scotland 19:15 Median 19:45 Sports Roundup 20:00 Newsweek

## VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1200 & SW 7200, 9505, 11740,  
11925 and 15210 KHz

05:00 News 05:10 Newsline 05:30 VOA Morning 06:00 News 06:30 Newsline 06:30 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 Morning 07:30 News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Music USA 18:00 News 18:10 Newsline 18:30 Sports Newsline 18:30 Features 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English News 20:30 Focus 21:00 News 21:10 Newsline 21:30 Music USA 21:30 News & Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 News 23:10 World Report



## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Canadian parliamentarians due Saturday

AMMAN (Petra) — A Canadian parliamentary delegation is due in Amman on Saturday for a week-long visit to Jordan at the invitation of Parliament. During the visit, the delegation will meet Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, Lower House Speaker Akel Al Fayez and senior officials to review current international issues of common interest, especially the situation in the Middle East region, the Iran-Iraq war, and bilateral relations. The Canadian delegation will also visit tourist and archaeological sites and a Palestinian refugee camp in Jordan.

## Dudin briefs former U.S. official

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin on Wednesday conferred in his office with Mr. Michael Sterner, former U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, who arrived in Amman on Tuesday. The minister briefed Mr. Sterner on the situation in the occupied Arab territories and Jordan's efforts to extend help to the Arab population through implementing the five-year economic and social plan. Mr. Dudin said that the plan forms part of Jordan's continued help to the inhabitants of the Israeli-held Arab territories and is designed to benefit a larger sector of the population.

## Health council to convene Monday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Higher Health Council will hold a meeting next Monday under the chairmanship of Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh. During Monday's session, the council will discuss a number of issues on modernising and developing medical methods employed at all medical institutions in Jordan. The council will also discuss final recommendations on organising emergency first aid operations. The recommendations were formulated by a joint committee set up by the council. Also on the agenda is a health insurance plan for approximately one million private sector personnel.

## Seminar on narcotics slated for Feb. 28

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh will open a seminar on narcotics and their effects on Feb. 28. During the seminar, to be organised by the Arab women graduates club, working papers presented by specialists on narcotics will be discussed with an emphasis on the social effects of drug taking and means to prevent addiction.

## Embezzler receives 18 months

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Mahmoud Shanwan to 18 months imprisonment and the payment of JD 105 for embezzling public funds. The military governor endorsed the sentence on Tuesday.

## PSD requests Arab nationals to obtain registration cards

AMMAN (Petra) — Arab nationals who had been living and working in Jordan without permits before Feb. 1, 1987, have been asked to report to security centres around the country to obtain reference cards in accordance with new regulations issued by the Public Security Department (PSD).

A statement from the PSD said that the nationals in question should obtain their cards before the end of April, 1987. The statement said that security centres operate 24 hours a day and Arab nationals can call at any time after office hours to come for their registration and obtain cards. The statement said that Arab nationals visiting Jordan should report to security centres to register any extension of their

staying in the Kingdom within two weeks after their arrival here.

On Feb. 1, the PSD issued a new set of regulations governing the entry and registration of Arabs and foreigners in the Kingdom. The regulations, it said, were designed to organise the entry, registration and departure of both Arab and foreign nationals from and to Jordan to provide accurate data on them.

According to the new regulations, Arabs exempt from acquiring visas or permits will be issued special cards which they have to produce at the nearest police station regularly throughout their stay in the Kingdom. These cards will have to be returned to border posts upon their departure from the country.

## Hmoud holds talks with Syrian team on agricultural cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud on Wednesday held a meeting with Dr. Yahya Bakkour, president of the Syrian Agricultural Engineers Association and the accompanying delegation for discussions on subjects related to the development of agricultural cooperation between Jordan and Syria.

During the meeting, the minister underlined the importance of giving more attention to agricultural development in the Arab World, noting that agriculture forms the backbone of the Arab World's economy.

He said that Arab agricultural associations could play an important role in achieving Arab agricultural integration and could also be instrumental in implementing joint Arab agricultural projects towards ensuring food security for the Arab World.

Mr. Hmoud went to say that Jordan is now exploiting underground water resources with the purpose of irrigating new agricultural areas, especially in the

south and south eastern regions of the Kingdom.

Jordan has also taken practical steps towards implementing its share of the Hammad Basin project, near the border with Iraq, Syria and Saudi Arabia, the minister continued.

Dr. Bakkour for his part underlined the importance of the agricultural sector in the national Arab economy and he called for further agricultural coordination among Arab countries to ensure food security. He also urged to ensure the free flow of agricultural products within the Arab World in accordance with the principles of the Arab Common Market.

The meeting was attended by Ministry of Agriculture Under Secretary Salem Al Lawzi and the president of the Jordanian Agricultural Engineers Association.

The Syrian delegation, which arrived here Tuesday on a four-day visit, is expected to tour agricultural projects in Jordan and hold talks with other officials.

## Amman school to host third IBO conference and workshop

AMMAN (J.T.) — The International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO) will be holding the third of its conferences and workshop sessions for IB schools in the Middle East in Amman during April this year. The conference will be hosted by the Amman Baccalaureate School (ABS), and participants from IB schools in most Middle East countries are expected to attend, along with other delegates from IB schools worldwide. The IBO's last Middle East conference, held in Amman in October 1985, was also hosted by the ABS.

This year's conference will aim to cater for the growing interest in the International Baccalaureate system in Middle East schools. The workshops are in-

tended to assist teachers who have limited experience in teaching the IB programme, and will cover a wide range of subjects, notably Arabic language, and Islamic studies.

The ABS has played an important role in pioneering work on the IB's Islamic studies syllabus, which is currently in the last stages of ratification. The school, which has recently changed its name from the International Baccalaureate School in accordance with the IBO's policy that there should be a clear distinction between the name of the programme and the name of the school offering it, will be represented at the IBO Heads of Schools Conference in Washington next week.

## Ministry regulates hiring of Egyptian workers

AMMAN (Petra) — All Egyptian workers arriving for employment in the Kingdom should from now on obtain the approval of the Jordanian Ministry of Labour through their would-be employers. Under Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Social Development Mansour Utom announced on Wednesday.

Dr. Utom, made his statement in the presence of Mr. Mohammad Abdul Razzaq, the labour attaché at the Egyptian embassy in Amman, and said that the procedure is in implementation of an agreement reached between the Minister of Labour Khaled Al Haj Hassan and Egyptian officials during the minister's visit to Cairo last year.

From now on, business owners and employers in Jordan wishing to employ Egyptians should submit requests to this effect together with a contract for employment to the Ministry of Labour for approval. If this approval is given the forms would then be referred to the Egyptian embassy in Amman for finalising procedures before the workers arrive in the Kingdom, Dr. Utom explained.

He said that the new regulation, which were put into effect at the beginning of 1987, stipulate that no work permit will be issued to an Egyptian unless the contract for employment has been secured and the procedures completed in advance.

## Work permits

As to Egyptian workers living and working in Jordan before Jan. 1, 1987 and holding work permits issued before that date, they will be exempted from the new procedures and their work permits will be renewed in the light of the need for their work and the labour market situation in the Kingdom, Dr. Utom continued.

He said that Egyptian workers who had been in Jordan before the beginning of 1987 but without work permits will have to rectify their permits by March 31, but these workers will not be requested to obtain new contracts for work.

"According to Dr. Utom, all Egyptian workers will be requested to report to security centres, as do other Arab nationals living in Jordan, to obtain reference cards before the end of April.

## Rifai receives North Yemeni deputy prime minister

Iryani meets senior officials for discussions on bilateral cooperation in education, culture and energy

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Wednesday received North Yemeni Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Iryani who arrived here on Tuesday.

They reviewed bilateral relations and means of further bolstering and strengthening these relations in all fields. Foreign Minister Taber Al Masri and North Yemen's Ambassador in Amman Ali Abdullah attended the meeting.

Also Monday, Minister of Education Thounan Al Hindawi received Dr. Iryani. During the meeting they reviewed existing cultural relations and means of further developing them, especially in the educational and curricula fields. The two sides also discussed the possibility of meeting North Yemen's needs of Jordanian teachers and the exchange of curricula, school books and experts on education and teacher training. A total of 171 Jordanian teachers are currently working in North Yemen.

The meeting was attended by the ministry's secretary general Ahmad Al Bashairah and a number of ministry officials as well as North Yemen's ambassador in Amman.

The North Yemeni guest later paid a visit to the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources and the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) where he met with Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib. Dr. Khatib reviewed his ministry's activities and programmes in the fields of energy conservation, planning and the rationalisation of energy which, he said, resulted in a decrease in the demand for energy in Jordan. The minister also pointed out that intensive studies are being conducted for exploiting solar energy and that

the ministry is going ahead with plans to utilise new energy sources such as wind energy. Dr. Khatib also outlined the ministry's programmes to prospect for oil and minerals in Jordan. He expressed Jordan's readiness to strengthen and further develop joint cooperation with North Yemen in energy and electricity fields and to exchange experiences in these fields.

JEA Acting Director Walid Al Jaouni explained JEA's various activities, projects and future plans and the use of computers in its technical, administrative and financial activities. He added that JEA has recently installed a new computer network which will connect all JEA sites as part of the expansion in its work. This computer system is the first of its kind in the Middle East.

Mr. Jaouni also spoke about JEA's current projects through which it supplies electricity to various regions of the country.

He reviewed cooperation with the North Yemeni electricity corporation in the training of Yemeni technicians at the authority's training centres and present negotiations for cooperation in setting up a computer department for use in technical, financial and administrative systems at North Yemen's electricity corporation.

Dr. Iryani stressed the importance of strengthening existing cooperation between the two countries in energy and electricity fields. He also toured various departments at the ministry and the JEA.

Also on Wednesday Dr. Iryani visited the industrial estate at

## Romanian speaker ends visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Mr. Nikolai Giossan, president of Romania's National Assembly, left for Syria via Ramtha on Wednesday at the end of a four-day visit to Jordan during which he met with His Majesty King Hussein and Jordanian officials.

The Romanian official was seen off at the border post by members of the Upper House of Parliament and Romania's ambassador to Jordan.

On the last day of his visit, Mr. Giossan called at the King Abdullah Martyrs' Mosque in Amman and toured its different sections. Mr. Giossan was met by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat and other officials who briefed the visitor on the Islamic architectural style used in building the mosque which cost \$10 million.

Later on Wednesday Mr. Giossan and his delegation, accompanied by Speaker of the Upper House Ahmad Al Lawzi, visited the University of Jordan and met with its president, Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali. They reviewed educational development in Jordan and the university's programmes. Mr. Giossan expressed hope that cultural and educational cooperation between Jordan and Romania would be bolstered in the interests of both countries. Mr. Giossan and his delegation toured the campus and were briefed on different activities at the university.

## Hikmat delivers lecture on lawyers through the ages

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former minister and distinguished lawyer Taher Hikmat on Tuesday delivered a lecture at the Amman Lionses' Club on the lawyers profession through the ages.

In his lecture, Mr. Hikmat referred to lawyers' work in Medieval Europe, in Islamic periods and today and touched on the profession in the ancient civilisations. The lecture pointed out the role of lawyers in defending

members of the public's rights and in settling disputes in addition to the major role it plays in modern commerce and industry, banking and trade deals.

Referring to the work of lawyers and the judicial system in Jordan, Mr. Hikmat said they are well respected and that the laws and regulations have been developed to adapt to economic and social changes in society.

## U.S. presently unable to activate any peace initiative on Mideast, former official says

By Najwa Najjar  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — It is difficult for the U.S. administration to initiate solutions to the Arab-Israeli conflict since the secretary of state's position has been strengthened and the national security staff has been "cleaned out," said a former U.S. official. "There is scepticism and a sense of failure and exhaustion in the administration on this issue because have elapsed without anything happening," said former U.S. ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, Michael Sterner. Comments and questions followed a lecture Mr. Sterner delivered entitled "The U.S. political agenda for the Middle East 1987-88." A member of the audience commented that in the absence of action and achievement on the part of the U.S. regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict, isn't the U.S. inviting Arab anti-American feeling and terrorism — which is a manifestation of disillusionment? — another added that "when one looks at the U.S. policy, the real thing is that whatever has to do with Israel was cooked in Israeli kitchens and fed to the U.S."

In response the ambassador spoke of the theory of American effectiveness and said: "There is always a very effective American role for negotiations when more is going on in active diplomacy. During these times the U.S. finds it can do more, bring influence on the parties and persuade Israel to do things it normally would not do." He said that now it is difficult for the president to have an effect because the issue has gone "cold." "The present administration has attempted several times to make headway. For example, American forces were sent to Lebanon in 1982 and the same year the Reagan plan was introduced," and yet no progress, said the former deputy assistant secretary of state.

## U.S.-Israeli relations

"Conversely when nothing is going on, the U.S. and Israel grow closer and the U.S. tends to neglect U.S.-Arab relations. There seems to be some kind of iron law on how the situation works," said Mr. Sterner. He added that there is a more positive aspect to the Arab-Israeli conflict since the secretary of state's position has been strengthened and the national security staff has been "cleaned out." "For the next two years I can say that no more clandestine operations will take place from the White House, nor will any decisions be taken" without prior knowledge of Congress, he said. Addressing an invited audience of the Jordan Centre for Studies and Information at the Marriott Hotel on Tuesday evening, the ambassador answered several questions on the peace process, arms shipments to Iran, the Gulf war and American diplomacy in the region.

Mr. Sterner dismissed the "great disposition in this part of the world to blame the U.S. for everything that goes wrong." He said that the U.S. has made errors in that it has not been as energetic as it should have been nor has it used its influence over Israel enough "but, there have also been major failures in Arab leaderships."

He referred to the President Reagan's speech in 1982 "I think it was a strong speech and had many good points — among them the American commitment that the land of the West Bank should be returned to the Arabs sometime in the future," said Mr. Sterner. "I do not think the U.S. can be held (responsible) for this failure as much as the PLO (Yasser) Arafat wanted to move in this direction and could not move his executive committee with him. He (Arafat) has proved over the years that he wants to keep his organisation together more than doing something for the Palestinian people."

Another guest member said that "no slogans have been raised asking the U.S. to help nor to aggravate the situation, but because the American government has already aggravated the situation, Arabs feel it is the duty of the U.S. to solve it." The ambassador expressed his dismay at the decreasing popularity of Americans among the Arab people, even though good relations exist with the Arab governments "something of the reverse of the situation in the 1950's."

## Irangate

On his country's stance towards Iran, Mr. Sterner said that "Irangate came about as a result of a bad decision based on bad advice." He explained that the idea of negotiations evolved as early as 1984 for strategic reasons. "The basic objections to the idea was that it was premature and if there was any leak it would complicate the U.S. policy which was to stop the war."

Responding to comments from the audience, the ambassador said: "The contradictions in Irangate were the worst thing and it will take time to resume our credibility" in the region. He added that involving Israel was "another very bad aspect. We should not have used Israel as our surrogate."

Mr. Sterner said that if negotiations between the U.S. and Iran had remained at the dialogue level "it would not have caused a scandal. I think this was an exceptional episode in American policy." Later, he added that if the individuals involved explained the steps they were planning to take "this policy would have been accepted."

## ON BEHALF OF THE LATE

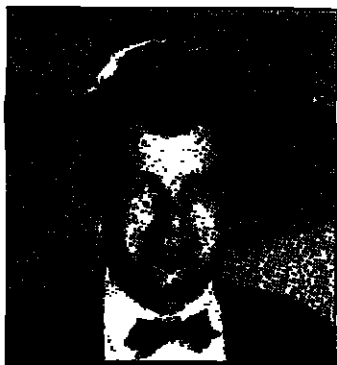
**Martha Beaumont Abdel-Razzak**  
The Iqtishads, their relatives and in-laws in the two Banks of Jordan and overseas, as well as the American community in Jordan express their heartfelt gratitude to all those who have supported them in their time of grief. The enormous expressions of sympathy and condolences are greatly appreciated. A further thanks is expressed to all those who donated blood for Martha and to those who assisted them in doing so.  
"May God Bless Them for their generosity and keep them under His merciful protection."

## Au revoir to first secretary

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mr. Patrice Paoli, first secretary at the French Embassy in Amman, leaves his post here on Thursday to join the Middle East section of the French mission at the United Nations.

"I have spent the most interesting four years of my political career in this country," Mr. Paoli said in a recent interview. Mr. Paoli started his political career in 1980 at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs before he was assigned to join the French diplomatic mission in the Kingdom. Mr. Paoli, his wife and two children will be flying out of Amman Thursday.

On Tuesday evening, French



Patrice Paoli  
Ambassador Patrick Leclercq held a farewell reception for Mr. Paoli.

## Woodcut — historic, unfamiliar art form bounces back

By Meg Abu Hamdan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Every few months the Goethe Institute treats us to one of its unusual exhibitions. Unusual because their exhibitions almost always have a theme that is slightly unfamiliar to most of us. Last June the institute brought a photographic exhibition. Nothing unusual about that, except that cleverly they were photographs of artists at work in their studios. Then it was the strange sculptures made of everything from foam rubber to light switches, followed by an exhibition of cartoons about the architectural profession.

The latest in this series of exhibits from the Goethe Institute about the now seldom practised media of the wood cut on at the Petra Bank Art Gallery this week is therefore no exception. Entitled "Six Centuries of German woodcut art" it traces, by a series of extensively annotated posters, the development of the technique in the West from its early beginnings in the 15th Century to the present day.

The technique of cutting away wood from a finger thick plank to leave only the lines of a design in relief which was then inked and imprinted onto a sheet of moistened paper was first developed in the southern part of the old German empire, which included Austria and Switzerland around the year 1400, although of course in China the art of wood engraving had already been practised during the Tang dynasty (618-907).

A reproduction of one of the earliest woodcuts still in existence is of St. Dorothy. Dating from 1410, its gentle simplicity is enhanced by the flowing, sinuous lines which are characteristic of the "soft style" in the visual arts during the early 15th Century. This woodcut, along with that of "Christ in the wine press" are typical of the devotional broad-



The four horsemen of the Apocalypse — a complex, detailed image in wood.

sheets the woodcut was usually used to produce at that time.

## 'Block books'

Slightly later, the woodcut was used for making books. For a block book as they were called, both text and illustrations were engraved onto the same woodblock for simultaneous printing. This was the earliest form of printing ever to be used and because only one side of a sheet of a paper could be printed, the blank sides were pasted together

resulting for the first time in a printed book with running text and illustrations. An example of such a book — the "Book of the Planets" — is reproduced, along with pages from other incunabula — the Latin term applied to books printed prior to 1500.

It was the German artist Albrecht Durer (1471-1528) who brought the technique of woodcuts to a fine art around the turn of the Century (1500). The reproductions of his woodcuts at the exhibition show the tremendous

leap the art form took under his genius, from slightly simple, naive drawings to highly complex pieces as excellently rendered as any Italian Renaissance oil which had influenced Durer greatly. "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse" is a masterpiece of atmosphere, tension and fine rendering.

Many woodcut artists flourished at this time and the reproductions of their work at the exhibition show the many different styles and techniques these artists played around with. It is also interesting to note that it was around this time — the 1530's — that fly sheets were used for the first time to inform the public of extraordinary events.

## Rediscovering the woodcut

For two centuries, roughly from 1600-1800, the woodcut was pushed into the background by copperplate printing and etching and although the art form was being revived by 1800, it was not until the expressionists rediscovered it (around 1911), that the woodcut as an art form really made a come-back in popularity. Emil Nolde, Erich Heckel, Karl Schmidt-Rottluff and others were all to some degree or another fascinated by the singular black and white effect of the technique which is enhanced by the natural grain of the wood.

In the second half of the 20th Century, the woodcut is still important to many artists who are "seeking to discover an organic relationship with the peculiar nature of wood as a natural product, from which they can draw inspiration." One of these artists is H.A.P. Grieshaber who created monumental prints and murals from huge woodblocks. The exhibition ends with reproductions of the woodcuts of two of Germany's most famous contemporary artists, Georg Baselitz and A.R. Penck. The exhibition runs until Feb. 22.



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### Warning signs

MOST certainly our brethren in Gaza who have been protesting violently against the Amal siege of the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon were driven into such demonstration of solidarity with their kinsmen by the inhuman and degrading treatment accorded the Palestinian refugees by the Amal militiamen. The trickle of food and medical supplies allowed into the refugee camps after three months of stiff blockade has not lessened the outrage of the Palestinian and Arab peoples everywhere. Yet we think the real cause for the Palestinian show of anger and frustration is the continued Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory and the persisting stalemate in the peace process in the Middle East. When the Gazans wave Palestinian flags and shout slogans in support of the residents of the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, they are in fact seizing the occasion to let off steam from their hearts and minds, angered and frustrated by the continued Israeli aggression and occupation. The siege of the refugee camps in Lebanon is the fuse which could trigger the already heated psyche and souls of the Palestinian people who have been under siege for decades by the Israeli occupation and aggression.

Now that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is in Washington making sure the U.S. does not support the convening of an international peace conference on the Palestinian conflict, the U.S. must be asked to reflect afresh on the possible consequences of its succumbing to Israeli pressure. Israel wants to make sure that concerned Arab parties engage in direct talks with it. If the Israeli prime minister leaves the U.S. full-handed on this point, the violence we see now in the occupied territories will surely soar, increase and the problems compound.

Last week, the Syrian people in the Golan Heights demonstrated violently against the Israeli occupation. Now, the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, as well as in the West Bank, are also protesting aggressively against Israel. The chain of protests and demonstrations against Israeli occupation of all occupied territories is growing and becoming interconnected. This is a clear and straight forward message to the Reagan administration. The U.S. should rebuff Mr. Shamir's call to put the Palestinian conflict on hold, and not believe Israeli claims that all is calm and normal in the occupied territories.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Ra'i: Real resistance continues

IN the face of Israel's continued brutal and inhuman treatment, the Arab inhabitants of the occupied territories have now escalated their acts of resistance and are continuing to confront the bullets and the siege with courage and daring counter-attacks and violent demonstrations. The Arab inhabitants are thwarting Israel's aims of evicting the Arab people from their homeland and are rejecting the occupation rule that has lasted since 1967. In fact, the Arab people of the occupied territories have been on and off carrying out such resistance activity since the very first days of occupation, because they totally reject the idea of kneeling before the invaders and succumbing to humiliation and acts of intimidation and terrorism. Therefore, any move by Israel to consolidate its existence in the Arab land is doomed to failure, and its continued arbitrary actions are bound to draw very strong and fierce reaction. The demonstrators in the streets of Palestinian cities were born under Israeli rule, and they feel the bitterness of the invasion and repression, and therefore they have risen against the invaders and their repressive rule. These demonstrators are continually making successes, and proving that they continue to cling to their homeland and their rights; and above all that they are determined to abort all Israeli plans. For this reason, all the Israeli military successes over the Arabs since 1948 can achieve nothing, and can bring no peace or stability to the Jewish state.

#### Al Dustour: Lebanese strife widens

THE street war in Beirut has been resumed, involving various warring factions that continue to bring destruction and death to Lebanon. The resumed fighting among opposing factions and the continued bloodshed in the Lebanese capital are bound to bring more sufferings to the embattled country and more tragedies to its people. It is not important now to define those responsible for the resumed fighting or the objectives which each of the factions is driving to achieve, but it is important to know that the continued civil strife is bound to complete the destruction of that nation. The factions now involved in the fighting have lost all sense of national belonging since they seek personal aims, and they have lost all meaning of human feelings since they continue to cause death and sufferings to their countrymen. To make things even worse, the people of Lebanon are now living through a very difficult economic situation threatening the very existence of the Lebanese society. We cannot but feel pain and sympathy for the Lebanese people, the victims of the factional war and we hope that the political and religious leaders of Lebanon will take action to save their country before it is too late.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: Beirut goes mad

WHAT is going on in west Beirut is more than madness, and the killing and the destruction are actions that would complete the ruin of Lebanon as a nation. The city itself has been transformed into one of ghosts, with only tanks and fighters and gunmen roaming around the devastated streets and alleys. The Lebanese who used to live in Beirut have abandoned the city either out of madness or after a tragedy, but all are determined not to return to the ruins. Death is in wait for any one who ever dares to pass the streets of west Beirut, and the city residents are shaking with fear for their lives and their families, trying to find some shelter away from the madness and the gunmen. The factions that are fighting in west Beirut are now trying to ensure their domination of their own zones, but if the fighting goes on all the factions will be out or dead, and their zones completely devastated. Whatever the result of the fighting, one thing is sure that more will die and that the fire will completely eat up the remainder of the city for which the factions are now fighting and suffering and death to many others.

# Fragments from the Palestinian dream

By Dr. Abdel Qader Yassine

VIOLENCE in both its psychological and physical forms has always dominated my life. Yet in those rare halcyon periods I experienced at times, there existed inside of me, alongside the memory of pain and devastation, an equally strong feeling of compassion, an affirmation of the possibility of human justice and freedom — denying violence a monopoly of the soul. Even as an eight year old boy, I have memories left behind. Of walking, resting, and of walking along the coast road heading to the Lebanese border for refuge with my family. My mother is with her prayer beads pleading with the deity to let us through safely. Along the way we join other groups of refugees heading in the same direction. My sister is only two years old and my mother takes her shawl, ties it in knots around her back and shoulders and puts my baby sister there. When we pass the Zionist settlements, everybody walks straight on, looking ahead of them as if by doing that we will not be seen. What are these settlements? Who are the people who live in them? Why did they choose our country to come to? Who are these people, who are they? ... Who are they?

The year before, in the village we have lived in, I keep remembering ... how the house was blown up and the family in it ran out. The woman's body burning and she clutching on to a pillow as she ran. I hear a scream. In the room that night everybody is getting up. Everybody is shouting to everybody else in the house to get up. And my brother carries a gun and leaves in a hurry. The sound of gunfire is getting louder ... closer ... and the animals in the village are running loose, down the dirt tracks, behind the houses. The Committee for the Defence of Balad Al Sheikh is giving instructions while the sky is raining fire on our village. They are here again. It is still night in the room and my mother is reciting verses from the Koran. The Stern gang are here again. There is a kind of frenzy in the Koranic words as my mother recites them. They are drowned by the sound of shooting and then I hear them, ever so loud, ever so frantic, when there is a gap, a short silence, as the firing stops for an instant. They are here ... They are killing us ... They are taking our homeland.

We left the village and went down to Haifa to live with my grandparents and uncle. My grandfather worked at the Haifa port with the British Port Authority ... and the underground. Every night he came home with guns that he would smuggle out of the gates at the port and bring home to my uncle. Guns he would steal from the officers where he worked. Guns he would buy from drunk British soldiers. Guns brought on friendly ships coming from Beirut, Latakia or Alexandria.

My uncle and brother would go off for days together. They were called the *Mujahideen*. My generation, two decades later, were to become *Fedayeen*. But everything was dying. They were only the remnants — disorganised and alone — of the 1936-1939 revolt. Outside my grandfather's house, along the highway, a group of *Mujahideen* are standing behind cement blocks. They are armed with machine guns and hand grenades and mortars. They take up their positions only minutes before the ambush starts. My uncle is running back and forth issuing instructions. The convoy of trucks arrives. Six brown trucks covered with canvas and thick rope. Heading on the road to Mount Carmel. One driver and one passenger in each. I am crouching by the window with my father's arm around my waist. Everybody in the room is watching. All at once there is machine gun fire directed at the trucks. Hand grenades explode. Bullets are fired ceaselessly for over a minute. Two of the trucks are on fire. I do not know where to look. There is something happening in all directions. To all the men. To all the trucks. I keep watching the truck nearest to the cement blocks. I see the driver with one hand on the steering wheel, the other clutching on to a pistol that he places on the outside, against the windshield. His co-driver next to him is dead, his body half out of the open door. The man now jumps out of his vehicle and takes cover behind

some of the cement blocks. He crouches there with the pistol still in his hand.

When the British soldiers arrive in their tanks and army vehicles, my uncle and his men hurry back to their homes with their weapons. There are bodies in the street. The trucks are burning. The smell of gunsmoke fills the air. The man behind the cement blocks waves to the soldiers. I see him as he walks away with them. I wave to him. I bring to endow him with a private history that I create for him. A private life that got embellished in time. His memory lived with me ever since I left Palestine in 1948. His story became longer as I grew older.

After the man was rescued by the soldiers, the tanks and army vehicles stayed behind in the neighbourhood. Soon more soldiers arrived. Hundreds of them. With their blonde hair, freckled noses and tattoos.

We hear them climbing up the stairs. My grandfather's part of the house is on the second floor of a two-storey building. We hear foreign voices. It is always foreign voices. Foreign people telling us what to do. They order us to open the door. They shout something about the authority invested in them by the King of England. That is how it was in those days — the King of England invested his people with authority to issue order in Palestine. And in India. And Africa. And Singapore. And Hong Kong.

The soldiers rush into our house. Six of them. And we are herded into one room. They ask my grandparents if they have guns around the house. We are all standing with our arms up. Only my mother looks funny. With her prayer beads over her head, uttering meaningless incantations to scare away the evil spirits. The soldiers open wardrobes, smash the dressing table, throw my grandmother's sewing machine against the wall. They wreck the place. The two soldiers who are doing most of the ransacking, are shouting abuse at the top of their voices. "Filthy wogs," they keep repeating. "Filthy wogs." All this time I am feeling nonchalant. For I had seen that, and more, done in the village. They would grab people by the hair and drag them to the centre of the square and kick them till they became unconscious. Often they took suspects with them who never returned. In the 1936-1939 revolt, before I was born, the British hanged three men from our village. Three *Mujahideen*.

Though my father was never a *Mujahid*, he transmitted their ethos to me. The mythology of the *Mujahideen* is an integral part of our oral history. Every Palestinian family has stories to recount. Every Palestinian child who sits on his parents' knees, listens entranced, to the tales of men who had defied the hated British and later the Zionists. How bands of *Mujahideen* used to come to the village during the revolt, with their guns and their checkered head-dresses and the women would come out to the square and give them flowers and bags of food and the children would point at them. A woman would stand at a close distance, put her hand over her mouth, clasp her lips with two fingers, and begin to ululate. The other women would join in and the square, the whole village, would reverberate with the sonorous sounds. The men in the village, would become reverential, their voices hushed, as they greeted the *Mujahideen*. *Ahlan Wa Sahlan. Ahlan Wa Sahlan.* And before leaving, the fighters would be joined by some of the young men from the village who would leave their fields and go off to fight in the hills.

My father never went away. He was a small shop-keeper. One day three British soldiers get off their jeep outside his shop and talk to him. They are drunk. One of them proceeds to abuse my father because there are files on the goods displayed in the open. How do you expect anyone to eat your rubbish with flies on it, they want to know. The other soldier takes his rifle and knocks over the bags of olives, cheese, oranges, whatever is nearest him right on the ground and jumps on it roaring with laughter. The third soldier grabs my father by the neck, throws his *hitta* (head-dress) off his head and

slaps him across the chest. And my brother became a *Mujahid* at the age of 17.

When we left Palestine, in the end, the dawn was blowing around us like the rage of God. Our city had fallen and burnt on bodies that lay supine. And the world applauded. But I do not hate. I did not hate at the age of eight. April is always a good time of the year where I was born. The sun shines and the smell of olives and oranges permeates the air. This April, in 1948, was my father's last in Palestine.

The day before we leave the city, we sit in the house off the highway and we hear foreign voices shouting into loudspeakers. Get your women and children out. Get everybody out. Get everything out. This is going to be somebody else's country now. Get your roots and soul out. Get them out. Around the streets, in the distance, there is intermittent gun fire. Get your women and children out. There are flares and smoke and fireworks exploding in the heavens, above the houses, beyond the port, near Mount Carmel, around the centre of town. Something was dying. Something was coming to an end for this generation of Palestinians. Get your women and children out. It was the turning point.

The men and women who were defending Haifa were no longer there. They were dead. They were alone. They were wounded. They were one. Then the people go. The radio is dead. Before it dies someone issues Declaration 15 on the air. What was declaration 14? And 8? And 4? And 1? But there was no Declaration 16. The other was choked with fire. And despair. And helplessness. And death.

Four decades later the Declaration is still to be issued. And I sit here thinking if we have any liberated zones I can go to, to feel free in, to be free in.

In the meantime I, a Palestinian from the refugee camps who acquired his past in exile, hate. I hate the world I come from. I hate what has been done to me. What has been done in it. I hate those who are doing the doing. I hate, above all, what is done in its name. Robbed of my right to be, like so many other Arabs, I am reduced to hating — which is my only control mechanism, the only hot iron that cauterises the poison of my condition, the only channel through which I can siphon off my pain and may anger.

I lived in Nepal once. At the time, I was a stranger to myself. And I dropped a head of acid as I sat on top of the Swayambou Temple overlooking the Kathmandu Valley while I played cards with a woman from New York who wore sandals with straps up to her knees and had jet black hair that covered the whole of one cheek. She was Jewish.

"You deal," she said. The colours in the valley were beginning to become real, to have their own sounds. "I'll deal," I said. "Only this is a deck I brought from home with me. All the way from Palestine."

"So what you are dealing?"

"I'm dealing pain. Palestinian pain. Every card gives you a measure of pain that stays with you for the rest of your life. And may be the life of your yet unborn child."

"Even the Ace does that?"

"Yes, every card in the deck."

"We don't play this game in the United States."

"That's the only game we play in our part of the world — in Palestine, in Africa, in South America, in Asia, in Harlem, in the hovels, in the bidonville, in the refugee camps."

I deal cards, and I return to Palestine on my trip. Only Palestine is not a country. It is time behind time, space behind space. Like a ham sandwich when you are a hungry Muslim, and like Palestinian metaphors and our embroidered dresses and *dabki* tunes and the time, soon, when the leaves will turn, when the leaves will fall, and autumn will make way for the clean snow. And then the echo will be heard long after the voice of our pain is forgotten.

## Islamic challenges to Turkey's European aspirations

There seems to be serious alarm in Turkey over emerging Islamic fundamentalism. David Barchard reports on what is seen by some as a threat to the freedom of middle-class liberals.

ANKARA — Turkey, the most secular and the most industrialised country of the Islamic world, is in the grip of a fierce argument about Islamic fundamentalism, something which until recently most middle-class Turks thought disappeared as a serious threat half a century ago.

In the space of a few weeks, fierce divisions have appeared between the major parties and political leaders. In some quarters, the assumption that Turkey is steadily evolving into a European-style advanced industrial society is under serious challenge. It is plain that there is serious alarm over fundamentalism. President Kenan Evren has denounced it for the first time as being as much of a danger to Turkey as Communism. The premier, Mr. Turgut Ozal, who has long been under fire from the press because of his family's religious connections, has been forced to admit that fundamentalism could be a potential danger for the country.

The social democratic opposition has been much more outspoken, reflecting the fears of many westernised middle-class families.

"The fundamentalists are pushing hard on every front to gain ground wherever they can," says Mr. Mithat Sirman, a journalist working for *Hurriyet*, Turkey's largest-selling daily newspaper which has been campaigning

against fundamentalists for months. The most noticeable single feature is the growing number of men and women wearing recognisable Islamic sectarian costume. Turkey has always been full of women wearing peasant shawls and sometimes veils across their faces. In the last five years, however, these have been joined by urban women wearing plain silk headscarves — known rather confusingly as turbans in Turkish — and similar coats. These are identifiable as members of the underground religious movements called *tarikats* or brotherhoods, which have been illegal for many years but whose membership is clearly expanding dramatically at present.

Recently, at the behest of President Evren, the wearing of these headscarves by women in universities was banned. To some this looks like an interference in personal freedom of dress, not least when male students and staff are not permitted to have beards or wear jeans. But for most Turks, the headscarf is a political statement. The *tarikats* want to undo the reforms of Kemal Ataturk in the 1920s, abolish Turkey's Western secular institutions and install a clerical Islamic state.

There seems little doubt that this is, broadly speaking, a correct perception. A *Nakshibendi* *tarikati* follower whom I met not

long ago described Ataturk to me as "an enemy of religion who did the devil's work." The family of a girl belonging to the *Suleymani* *tarikati* aims at establishing a religious state.

There are about half a dozen major *tarikats* and a huge number of smaller ones. Though their membership mostly consists of followers in rural areas and small towns, more than one prime minister of Turkey is believed to have been a *tarikati* member and connections between the religious movements and politicians are carefully monitored.

The key factor behind their growth seems to be the deliberate expansion of clerical education by right-wing politicians since 1965, and more particularly since 1980. The number of graduates of clergy training colleges doubled from 26,000 in 1980 to 46,400 in 1984. This was far more than the number of policemen or agriculturalists being trained.

It contrasts with the total suppression of religious education of any sort in Turkey for 15 years by Ataturk. Religious instruction is now compulsory in all schools and even Christian and Jewish children have to attend Islamic religious instruction and pass exams in it.

When the generals drew up the 1982 constitution, they believed religious education would be a bulwark against the spread of Marxist ideas. Now the army itself, a traditional guardian of secularism, feels threatened.

For most secularised Turks, the army is now the chief remaining

protection against a fundamentalist takeover. At home and at work, many have to contend with active pressures from fundamentalists.

President Evren recently revealed that religious extremists had been detected trying to infiltrate students into military academies.

"Every Friday there is a great rush to the mosque," says an official in the State Planning Organisation. "Everyone sees who pleases their superiors by going. I think it is extremely unhealthy, but no-one listens to me."

There is a similar situation in schools and in the streets. Some shops in middle-class quarters of Ankara now shut during prayer times on Fridays; Sunday has been the weekly holiday in Turkey since the 1920s. The mosque's cry is heard loudly at night in districts where until recently it was unfamiliar even by day.

The westernised element of Turkish society is largely middle-class and made up of intellectuals, civil servants and new business and industrial groups. These have all grown up inside the western educational and legal institutions created in the 1920s by Ataturk.

Turkey's legal system is entirely western, drawing on the Swiss civil code, Italian penal code and German commercial code. So, too, is the country's business life. Fundamentalists often slate Mr. Ozal for tolerating high interest rates. Islamic banking has existed only for the last three years under a special law and is very much on

the fringes of the financial world in Istanbul, operating under the euphemism of "special finance houses." In practice, the two Saudi-backed finance houses operate in a way which is hard to distinguish from that of a normal bank.

Alarmed by the growth of fundamentalism in the rural hinterland, most of the business world favours the swift integration of Turkey in the EEC.

No-one seems sure where the Islamic movement will end. To Mr. Demirel and the True Path Party, the development is perfectly healthy. But then Mr. Demirel presided over the restoration of clerical education in Turkey and is trying to build an electoral coalition against the government.

Mr. Ozal is caught between the strongly clerical wing of the Motherland Party and his liberal, business-minded advisers. His parliamentary party, which recently voted against an investigation into fundamentalism, seems chiefly clericalist.

Last month, fundamentalists surprised public opinion by holding marches in Istanbul and Konya, calling for the restoration of the *sharia* (Islamic holy law). These have been followed by a spate of detentions, arrests and trials of some of their leaders, reminiscent of the treatment meted out in Turkey to leftwing activists.

It seems unlikely that this will do much to halt what seems to be a growing social movement — *Financial Times* feature.

## Prince stresses need for education plan

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the academic, vocational and economic and social requirements. Prince Hassan said "the present stage requires a very careful management of the human resources at our disposal and careful steps should be made in this work which should be based on sufficient and minute information and data about the society and its

needs."

At the outset of the meeting, Minister of Education Thougan Hindawi reviewed the educational process in the Kingdom over the past three decades and the achievements realised in that period. "It is high time for making a general assessment of the educational process with a view to re-examining the national educational system for the sake of

strengthening it further," the minister said. He said that the special work team had been formed upon the request of Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

Prince Hassan will participate in the council's session which will review the team's report and issue the recommendations.

Arab driver killed after running down Israeli soldiers

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took to the streets in the West Bank and the occupied Gaza Strip to protest against the Amal Shi'ite militia siege of their brethren in Beirut refugee camps. All five Palestinian universities in the West Bank were closed on Wednesday, four by military order and one on instructions from local school authorities.

Protesters in the West Bank town of Al Bireh, north of Jerusalem, burnt tyres on a main road and built stone barricades in nearby Jallazoun refugee camp. Palestinian sources said police arrested two men in the Gaza Strip during the night on suspicion of inciting demonstrations, bringing the number of Arabs detained since the unrest began to 64.

Israeli military censors on Tuesday banned the East Jerusalem Palestinian daily *Al Quds* from printing a Reuters photograph showing three Israeli plainclothes security men beating an Arab youth in the town of Ramallah, the newspaper said.

The same photograph appeared on the front page of the English-language *Jerusalem Post*.

## Spain ready to supply arms

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Spain established diplomatic relations with Israel in January 1986 but said Madrid's support for Arab causes would not diminish in light of the move. Madrid also granted diplomatic status to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) office in Spain.

Asked whether reports of alleged Spanish arms sales to Iran figured in his talks here, Dr. Serra said "the issue was not mentioned." Madrid has denied the reports.

However, Dr. Serra said: "If one of Spain's private industry is selling arms to Iran, it is clearly violating our (the government's) restrictions, and we are investigating all that."

Asked to comment on the focus of his talks with King Hussein, Dr. Serra said the discussions covered the Palestine problem and ways to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict, in addition to the

general situation in the Middle East and a survey of the situation in Spain.

He said that his country believed that the solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict could come only through an international conference attended by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and all parties involved in the conflict, including the PLO.

Asked on reservations voiced by some fellow members of the 12-nation European Community (EC) over convening an international conference on the Middle East, Dr. Serra said "there is now a common agreement" within the community that such a conference was the proper forum to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

He said his country was lobbying with its EC colleagues to convince them of the necessity to convene such a conference "as soon as possible."

## Shamir ready to go to polls

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was unlikely, U.S. officials said.

A public quarrel between Mr. Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc and the middle-of-the-road Labour Party broke out in January after Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Israel favoured an international peace conference as the opening forum for peace talks with the Arabs.

The dispute continued until Mr. Shamir left for a 10-day visit to the United States Sunday night.

On Tuesday Mr. Peres said Israel and the United States may be ruining chances for Middle East peace talks by rejecting Arab calls for such a conference.

The daily *Haaretz* reported Wednesday that Mr. Peres used an intermediary to seek a meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev at the Kremlin.

The paper, quoting senior government sources, said Mr. Peres promised the Soviets the meeting would help pave the way for their participation in an international peace conference. It said the intermediary might be oil magnate Armand Hammer.

A senior Israeli foreign ministry official voiced support for an international Middle East peace conference despite Mr. Shamir's rejection of the idea in Washington.

Avraham Tamir, co-director-general of the foreign ministry led by Mr. Peres, said the ministry would continue to advocate a peace conference. He said 1987 would be the year the peace process starts in earnest.

"We're talking about talking, not about giving anything away," Mr. Tamir told reporters.

## Militias battle

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officials into west Beirut last July to try to curb militia lawlessness there.

Local radios broadcast what they called a "final warning" to gunmen to withdraw by 1300 GMT but were ignored by fighters battling from street corner to street corner.

The radios said Syria's military intelligence chief in Lebanon, Brigadier Ghazi Kanaan, would personally lead a joint security force comprising Syrian soldiers as well as Amal and Druze militiamen to halt the bloody clashes.

Brig. Kanaan was quoted as hinting at possible Syrian military intervention in west Beirut at a meeting he chaired of officials from the warring factions.





Participants in the journey from left to right: Abdel Jaber Barqawi, student Salem Hasanat, his father Khalil Hasanat and Mousa Al Riyati, the fifth participant, Hamdan Al Hasaseen, is not shown.

## Jordanian camel riders to 'conquer' Europe

By Rana Sabbagh  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Trekking on the back of a camel is always associated with the desert, but five Jordanians have come up with a unique idea: a 7,500 kilometre (KM) journey across the vast expanses of towns and villages, metropolitan centres and paved highways of two continents — from Aqaba to the ancient Andalusian palace of Alhambra in southern Spain.

Abdul Jaber Al Barqawi, 37, Hamdan Al Hasaseen, 47, Khalil Al Hassanat, 46, Mousa Al Riyati, 28, and school boy Salem Al Hassanat, 13, plan to set out on a marathon trek with camels on March 15, to promote Jordan's image, history and development.

Jordan's five ambassadors of goodwill want to portray to the Europeans the Kingdom's ancient and hospitable traditions, that still exist alongside the rapid socio-economic and technological development the country has undergone.

### Promoting tourism

The group also hopes that through human-to-human con-

tacts and eventual media coverage, they would be able to introduce an image of Jordan to many Europeans who may want to learn more about Jordan, which would eventually encourage incoming tourism.

"At every stop we make, we shall erect a bedouin's goat-skin tent (*beit shatr*). We'll offer people the traditional Arabic coffee (*Qahwet ahlan was shalan*) and show them maps and pictures depicting Jordan's historical, touristic, agricultural and industrial sites. We'll explain to them the diversity and richness of the Kingdom's history and ancient hospitable bedouin traditions", Al Barqawi, the group's leader told the Jordan Times in an interview.

Jordan's only port-city of Aqaba has been chosen by the five camel riders as starting point due to the historical meanings and values it holds. "We will kick off from the Castle of Aqaba, famed for being a crucial site during the Great Arab Revolt", which took place at the turn of this century, explained Al Barqawi, a Cairo University graduate in communications.

The objective of the journey, he said, was also to expose to the West the Arab culture and civi-

lisation from a Jordanian viewpoint: "We'll be wearing our traditional costumes, trekking on camels, and hoisting the Kingdom's flag in these countries and show their peoples the warm bedouin hospitality the Kingdom enjoys," said Al Barqawi, who has worked for a number of foreign and Arab public relations companies.

The five camel riders who come from Jordan's southern parts, hope to complete their odyssey in almost 150 days — not including rest day where they would camp at towns and cities along their route. Once they reach Alhambra palace, they intend to present the five camels to King Juan Carlos of Spain, a personal friend of His Majesty King Hussein.

The projected JD 35,000 trip is expected to be financed by public and private institutions interested in promoting Jordan. The journey will cover Syria, Turkey, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Italy, Austria, West Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, France and Spain.

The group has also asked the Ministry of Information to provide them with booklets on Jordan's history, tourism and development to be printed in four

languages: English, French, German and Spanish.

"We'll distribute these pamphlets to all concerned institutions in countries we visit in general and to youth associations in particular," Al Barqawi continued. He said that contacts are underway between the group, the Royal Jordanian Airline and Jordan's embassies in the countries they plan to visit to help in arranging folkloric shows to be staged by the camel riders in those countries.

The annual Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts, said Al Barqawi, will be a main feature they intend to highlight during the journey.

### Training the animals

Al Barqawi expects the group to cover about 50 kilometres a day.

Preparations for the send-off includes training both the camels and their riders. The five dromedaries will be subjected to training that would make them get used to travelling on highways, hearing vehicles, trucks, trains and aeroplane noises and to high-beam lights. The camels will also undergo extensive train-

ing to urinate and drop at fixed times and to eat and drink amidst commotion, Al Barqawi said.

Each camel needs 60 litres of water every three days and eats between six to 10 kilograms of barley.

The trek's leader, who expressed hope that the group would not face any trouble en route, explained that participants will be trained to ride amidst all the unusual topographic and modernisation changes they were liable to face. They will also be coached on how to talk to the media. Al Barqawi said the travellers have a list of all diseases and ailments that might affect the camels and will be taking with them appropriate medications for each sickness. Camel traders say that the dromedaries were vulnerable to the following: diarrhoea, urinary retention, injuries of the hoof, physical injuries and stalling.

The five camels, Al Barqawi said will be purchased from dromedary merchants in the Sharah mountains, in Jordan's south. Sharah camels can undergo all weather and temperature changes since they are accustomed to these climatic influences from the surroundings of the

Sharah mountains. Each camel costs between JD 600 to 1000 — depending on their origin, family race, age etc.

Each of the five travellers has certain hobbies and skills that complement the others. Both Al Hasaseen, and Al Hassanat are camel merchants who are well-aware of animal's habits and ailments. Al Riyati has been accustomed to working in tourism and presently works at the Aqaba Holiday Inn Hotel offering ground Arabic coffee to tourists. Al Barqawi, who has lived in a number of European cities, has very good command of English which will enable him to communicate with people in the countries they are to visit. The 13-year old presently attending school, is accustomed to camel riding, and can play the *rabbaba*, a traditional musical string-instrument, similar to a violin.

Asked whether the trip would affect Hassanat's school grades and tuition, Al Barqawi explained that arrangements will be made with his school to allow him to sit for his end of term exams before they embark on the trip. He said the child will be back at beginning of the next scholastic year.

## Randa Habib's Corner

### Hole game

MY friends and I have "discovered" a new game in Amman and I invite you to join in. My friends, neighbours and I play it at least twice a day. It is easy, funny, and all you need is a car, preferably not your own, and, of course a valid driving licence.

The name of the game is to drive your car a distance of say 500 metres and steer it between deep street holes without falling into a single one. Until now, none of us who daily play this game were able yet to cross the distance without falling into at least one hole. But with constant practice some of us are improving and instead of falling into 15 or 10 holes some only manage to fall into three or two. It takes very good photographic memory, to recall where the holes are, and also a good car. Because with a bad engine if one falls in a hole he or she won't be able to get out, and is therefore disqualified.

My neighbours and I are now thinking seriously of putting the rules of the game in writing so that when people join in they are quickly informed. As for the place where we normally practice this sport, it is all over Th'a Al Ali. There is no need to test your skill in Shmeisani or Jabal Amman, you won't find enough holes, and, even if you find one or two holes in the morning, you won't find them in the afternoon because the municipality would have worked on filling them up. So the best circuit for our game is Th'a Al Ali. You have plenty of streets there to choose from, and hundreds of holes for your pleasure.

And the best route I found is the one that turns off Mecca Street towards the Baptist School. If you turn left and drive down that big wide road, you will find the best holes in Greater Amman. Keep on driving, turn right, and there, for your greatest enjoyment you will find that in some streets the area covered, or rather dug, by holes is much greater than the area covered by flat asphalt. Try to memorise the holes and then compete with one of your friends to find out who can avoid the greatest number of holes.

By the way, you do not have to worry about not finding the holes the next day, as in Th'a Al Ali, holes conform to laws of nature, they keep multiplying and deepening.

## Where does all the money go?

By David Ress  
Reuter

LONDON — Recycled from Riyadh to Rio, Tokyo to Turin, New York to London, growing every time, a huge pool of money accumulated in the inflationary oil shocks of the 1970s is still sloshing through a global marketplace.

As the money flows, it can dictate what mortgage rates will be in Minnesota or how many more pesos a Bolivian has to pay for a meal. It develops a momentum of its own, as its owners restlessly seek a mix of safety and an optimum return.

The process has pushed world share and bond markets to what were once inconceivably dizzy heights. Today, money that began life being cranked off the printing presses to pay for OPEC oil, swirls from one temporary haven to the next. It may be shares bought here and sold in Tokyo, bonds printed in Washington or owned in Luxembourg, or a loan from a Japanese insurance company to a Middle East chemicals venture.

The flows are so huge that some economists and bankers worry that the flood of money into and out of various markets could destabilise the international financial system. In its world outlook for 1987, the economist intelligence unit, an independent research group, saw a danger that, if there were too much speculation and too little regulation of the trade in money, that could cause the collapse of the financial system.

A London-based banker, who spoke on condition that he was not named, said that, at the turn of the year, as billions of dollars invested in just one type of security — perpetual floating rate notes — suddenly ebbed out of that market, it rattled financiers around the world.

"There were boards of directors of the world's biggest banks meeting to talk about bailing out of a bond position," he said. "For them to discuss that was unprecedented, and it shows just how nervous they really are."

The money in the perpetual

note market, as in the rest of the global money markets, flows through the hands of banks, insurance companies, pension funds, and the custodians of the reserves held by nation-states.

These traditional players in the money markets are also being joined by industrial companies, who were once their clients but these days often bypass financial institutions by moving directly into the markets themselves.

A huge amount of this global flow of money has been sent on shares, as governments in Europe and Japan sell off their state-owned utilities, airlines and banks.

And as the United States falls deeper into debt, and has to finance a \$200-billion budget deficit, it is this global pool of money that buys U.S. treasury bonds and bills.

Bankers say that when this money starts moving in a new direction, it sends waves through the whole world economy.

Third World nations are still reeling from the basic shift of the 1980s, when a flood of billions of dollars that had flowed to them in the form of loans by Western banks was dammed and the banks diverted it to the apparently less risky market for bonds and shares, especially bonds.

Banks not only slashed new lending to the Third World but increasingly slowed lending to any sort of doubtful risk, giving up the fat margins they could have earned in return for safety.

Insurance companies look to their income from investments in booming share markets to offset what are at times major losses on policies they had underwritten, even at the cost of some additional risk.

The managers of money agree that one imperative of very large sums of money is to be able to move, at a moment's notice if necessary, which creates an irresistible demand for round-the-clock money markets.

Trading never stops in currencies or in such liquid investments as the shares of the world's largest and bluest-chip companies or U.S. government bonds.

## Scientists studying precious metals bubbling from ocean, Red Sea floors

By Jane Arraf  
Reuter

MONTREAL — Scientists searching for precious metals have turned to the ocean floor, where natural chimneys are spewing out a metal-enriched black dust containing particles of gold, silver, copper and zinc.

Scientists believe these hot springs are recreating the process which, billions of years ago, created vast metal deposits now found on land.

The discovery is giving geologists a glimpse into the earth's early history and fuelling some new theories on the origin of life. It also has huge implications for mining companies.

Geologists are just beginning to understand how these chimneys, made of clusters of sulphur and minerals, are formed, and what makes them spew out the mineralised dust.

At present it is not commercially feasible for mining companies to operate beneath the sea, although some scientists believe the "black smokers," formally known as active mineralising systems, will be a major — and renewable — source of metals in the next decade.

In the meantime, mining companies are using the ocean-floor research to locate similar deposits on land.

"The hottest thing in the mining research game right now is ... the discovery within the past few years of mineral deposits currently forming — in front of our eyes — on the ocean floor," said Dr. Joseph Fox, a Montreal geologist who organised an international conference on the subject this month.

Canada has mined some of the richest copper, zinc and gold deposits in the world. In the past year, mining companies have used knowledge about where mineral formations occur on the ocean floor to find the deposits on land.

Geologists are excited because, unlike metal deposits on land, which are two or three billion years old, the undersea deposits keep renewing themselves.

"It's really incredible ... to think that we have a renewable metal resource when we've been taught to think of metal resources as non-renewable," Fox said.

The 30-foot-high chimneys or vents, discovered in 1979, are found along fractures in the

ocean's crust.

Scientists believe the deposits form when cold seawater seeps into the fractures, leaching metals as it is drawn down.

As the water travels in the direction of the earth's core, it heats up. Eventually the hot water rises, carrying with it the hot metal sulphide toward the ocean floor.

When the hot sulphide meets the cold seawater, a thick black smoke-like substance is formed, spewing out of vents in built-up deposits of sulphide.

The particles in the smoke eventually settle on the ocean floor, forming vast solid sheets of metal sulphide.

Clusters of chimneys and the smoke pouring out of them eventually form one large deposit, which sometimes continues to build from underneath.

The largest known deposit in the world, west of Vancouver island, contains estimated reserves of 30 to 100 million tonnes of sulphide, with high grades of gold and zinc.

That is far larger than average deposits on land, which contain one to two million tonnes of reserves.

Other large deposits are in the Red Sea and off the Galapagos islands.

Although the deposit off Vancouver clearly extends into U.S. territory, a section of it is at the centre of a boundary dispute between the United States and Canada.

The United States is taking offshore leasing bids on the deposits from mining companies, but Canada is keeping tight control over the area, said James Franklin, the co-ordinator of the Canadian sea floor minerals programme.

Scientists in mini-submarines have photographed and broken off samples of the ore. They plan to return this summer to take more samples to get a better idea of the deposit's size and grade. Geologists believe these seabed deposits will someday be exploited but said that mining metals from the bottom of the ocean may be held back by the cost of developing technology.

Fox said mining companies were investigating the possibility of extraction but the technology was not far enough advanced to obtain the deposits from the ocean floor, two kilometres.

## Swiss plan to tighten laws on granting asylum

By Richard Murphy  
Reuter

ZURICH — The Swiss government plans to tighten rules on admitting refugees despite protests from human rights groups that it is endangering Switzerland's tradition of offering sanctuary to the persecuted.

In a referendum on April 5, voters will give their verdict on proposals which the government admits are aimed at making Switzerland less attractive as a refuge for all but the truly deserving.

Under Swiss law, this means those whose lives or liberty are at risk because of their race, religion, nationality, political views or membership of a social group. Discontent with economic or social circumstances at home is not sufficient.

The government wants to deter people who do not meet the criteria for refugee status from coming to Switzerland in the first place. It also says that tougher measures are needed to deal with a flood of refugees and a large backlog of applications waiting to be processed.

But the main churches say the amendments are intended to frighten off all refugees, while the London-based human rights

group Amnesty International charges that "the proposed changes would throw into question the protection of the politically persecuted."

Walter Stockli, a lawyer working for the Swiss central office for refugee assistance (SFH), says: "We are convinced that, as a result of these measures, people who should be granted asylum in Switzerland will be turned away."

One controversial aspect of the new rules is that they would empower the government to stop the admission of all refugees if faced with a sudden surge in applications.

At present, the government can do this only in times of heightened international tension.

Of more immediate concern to refugee groups is a proposal to give the relatively conservative governments of Switzerland's 26 cantons more say in deciding who should be granted asylum.

The SFH believes that in practice this will mean that cantonal police, who lack expertise in international affairs and are trained to interrogate criminals rather than judge whether a foreigner is being persecuted, will make more and more negative decisions which will be rubber-stamped in Bern.

The government insists that only

clearly unjustified applications will be dismissed at cantonal level and that 80 per cent of asylum-seekers will still be able to put their case in person to federal officials in Bern.

Other proposed amendments would oblige refugees to register at a few designated border points, permit the detention of those refused asylum for up to 30 days before expulsion and allow cantons to ban applicants from working for three months.

Other Western European countries also face a flood of refugees, but the Bern government argues that Switzerland has attracted a disproportionate number because of its humanitarian traditions and high standard of living.

Since 1983, between 6,000 and 10,000 people per year have applied for asylum here. At the end of 1986, there were 30,141 foreigners with refugee status in Switzerland. The backlog of applications from people waiting in Swiss refugee centres stood at 21,470.

Many cantons refuse to accept more than a token number of refugees, putting the main burden of feeding and housing asylum-seekers on the authorities in the main cities.

Even under existing rules, the

number of people granted asylum in Switzerland has steadily declined.

In 1986, 820 people were granted asylum out of 6,601 who applied, a "recognition quota" of only 12 per cent compared with 75 per cent in 1983.

The SFH, an umbrella organisation for refugee groups, feels the law is already being interpreted too rigidly.

It detects a shift in public opinion from the post-war years, when memories of Jews being turned away from the Swiss border to death at the hands of the Nazis were still fresh and refugees, mostly from Eastern Europe, were made welcome.

Today's refugees, the SFH says, "come unasked, four fifths of them are from the Third World and alien cultures."

"Many Swiss are growing concerned about their jobs and this has led to a defensive attitude towards foreigners in general and refugees in particular," the refugee group concludes.

The refugee question has been highlighted by the case of some 40 Sri Lankan Tamils whose expulsion was ordered on the grounds that they would not be in danger in the south of their troubled country.

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## Jordan struggles against more experienced Taiwan in volleyball

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A visiting volleyball team from the Republic of China beat the Jordanian national team 15-8, 15-6, and 15-10 in a friendly game at the sports city on Wednesday.

The visitors were on the offensive throughout the game and took advantage of some weak spots in the Jordanian defences. Their attacks were well-organised and they enjoyed better ball-control over their hosts.

Organisers of the game said it was a very good experience for the Jordanian team to play with the Taiwanese, who rank among the top four teams in Asia.

It was the second game that the Taiwanese played in Jordan. On Tuesday, they played a team chosen from the northern regions of the Kingdom and won the game.

Among those attending was Minister of Youth Eid Dahiyat.

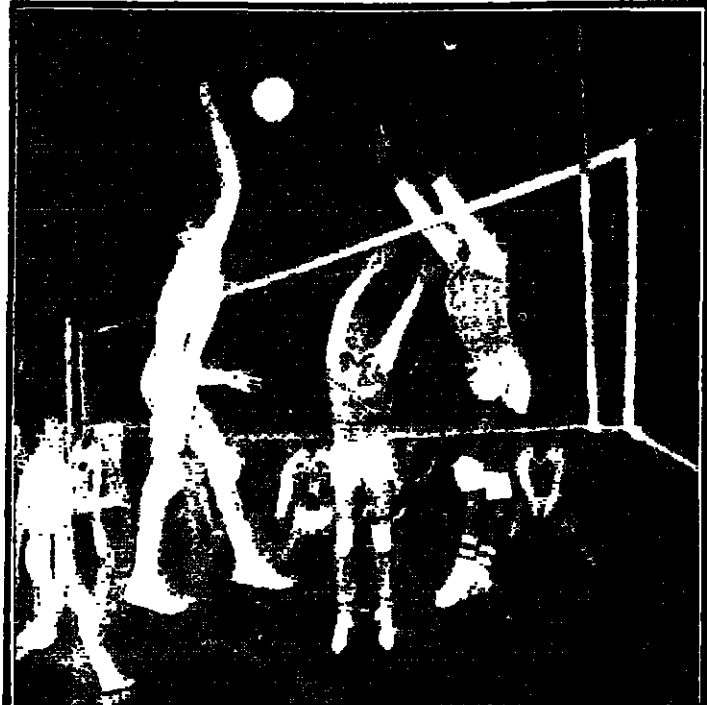
Jordan—tough competitor

The visitors found the standard of play of Jordanian volleyball teams far superior to most of their counterparts in the Gulf Arab states, said Xu Hung Liang, leader of the Taiwanese team, which played in Bahrain, Qatar and Kuwait before arriving in Jordan.

"The Al Qadisiya team of Kuwait was one of the best we played," said Xu. "Perhaps it is the only team which could match the Jordanian team with whom we played on Tuesday."

The Taiwanese won all the games they played in the three Gulf countries — three in Bahrain, two in Qatar and two in Kuwait.

The local team that played the visitors on Tuesday was selected from among players in the northern part of Jordan. The match was played in Yarmouk University under the patronage of its president, Mohammad Hamdan. Tuesday's match, which the



Taiwan's Wei Min-Chi (10) leaps to spike the ball as Jordan's Isam Jumar (right) and Ismail Tawfiq (left) jump to block the shot. Taiwan won the friendly volleyball match held at Al Hussein Sports City on Wednesday.

Taiwanese won, produced a very close finish — 16-14, 15-12 and 15-9. Commenting on the play, Xu said his team was impressed with the performance of the Jordanian team "which came up with an unexpectedly high level of excellence in the 100-minute game."

The visiting team includes many of the national Taiwanese players who took part in the Oct. 1985 tournament in Paris. The Taiwanese team represented the continent of Asia in the Paris Games. It did not secure any honours in the tournament.

Xu expected most of the players included in the team visiting Jordan to be assigned in the national team taking part in the Asia Cup tournament to be held in Kuwait in October this year. "Of course there will be some rearrangements after our return home, but I expect most of them to be selected for the Kuwait

tournament," he said.

The Taiwanese team, which leaves Jordan for Singapore Thursday night, is also scheduled to play the national team of Singapore before returning home.

The team's visit to Jordan was upon the invitation of the Ministry of Youth.

Xu said he was impressed by the hospitality and feelings of friendship he and the team members found in Jordan. Minister of Youth Eid Dahiyat received the team on Wednesday morning, Xu said.

## Italy defeats Portugal in preliminaries for Olympics

LECCE, Italy (AP) — Italy's Olympic soccer team, including several major league veterans, on Wednesday, defeated Portugal 1-0 in a Group B qualifying match for the 1988 Summer Games in Seoul.

The winning goal, at the Via Del Mar Stadium in this southern Italian city, was tallied by right insider Roberto Galia, of First Division Verona, in the 72nd minute, through a precise shot from a few metres.

It was the inaugural Olympic match for both teams and Italy's third consecutive victory against Portugal in as many games.

Earlier this month Italy defeated Portugal in qualifying matches of the European Championships and of the under-21 competition.

Wednesday's close victory gave Italy two points in the Group B standings, in a tie with East Germany which dined the Netherlands in a previous qualifying match. Group B also includes Iceland.

The top placed team in each group qualifies for the Olympics in South Korea.

Italy fielded Stefano Tacconi, Sergio Brio and Massimo Mauro of Juventus of Turin and Milan striker Pietro Paolo Virdis.

## Top teams have easy opening in table tennis

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — The top-ranking teams, both in men's and women's contests, faced no competition in taking their first steps toward qualifying as the 39th World Table Tennis Championships opened here Wednesday.

Barring one contest, Norway versus New Zealand, all matches were lopsided affairs. The New Zealanders proved tough customers but finally bowed to Norway 5-4.

China, Sweden and Poland, the top three men's teams, did not have to play on the first day. China, the title holders, had no engagement scheduled, and Sweden and Poland got walkovers after their opponents, Syria and Kenya, did not report for the matches.

Japan, a one-time table tennis superpower and ranked fourth here, began their hunt with a bang, crushing lowly placed Jordan in Group D, 5-0.

In women's competition, China began the defence of its title by drubbing Norway 3-0.

Dai Li won 21-9, 21-7 over Kristin Hagen, while Jiao Zhimin stretched the lead by beating Marianne Elikken 21-4, 21-8. The win came with Li Huifen and Chen Jing topping Hagen and Anne Heidi Skude 21-18, 21-7.

North Korea's second-ranked women easily topped Singapore 3-0, while its fifth-ranked men's team smashed Bermuda 5-0.

The third-ranked South Korean women scored a 3-0 victory over Brazil, and the South Korean men's team got a walkover from Venezuela.

Dutch women, fourth in the last championships at Gottenburg, topped Nigeria 3-0.

In all the women's matches, the winning teams won three games to none in the best of five scoring.

Sixty-three countries are participating in the 12-day tournament which began Wednesday morning with opening league matches. Ghana was included in the tournament Tuesday night.

Indian President Zail Singh inaugurated the championships in the vast Indira Gandhi Stadium with a colourful ceremony marked by traditional Indian pageantry.

Red and yellow balloons went up as Singh declared the meet open. Army bands played the Indian national anthem and school children sang a welcome song for the nearly 1,000 foreign players, officials and delegates.

Indian women in green saris led a parade of competitors, young girls in bright costumes presented a dance from the desert state of Rajasthan and tall Sikhs did the traditional "Bhangra" dance of Punjab.

## Bundesliga resumes with title struggle

BONN (R) — Hamburg and Bayern Munich, their batteries recharged after a record 11-week winter break, resume their battle for the West German First Division soccer title this weekend.

Both teams have 24 points from 17 games, with Hamburg holding a slender advantage on goal difference.

Bundesliga history suggests Hamburg should consolidate its position in the second half of the season because 17 of the 23 post-war champions have been in front at the time of the winter break.

But Bayern, with a powerful midfield led by international Lothar Matthaus, remains the favourite to win its third successive league title, not least because of its powerful reserve strength which will minimise the effects of injuries.

Other teams are close on the heels of the leaders and, on paper, have reasonable hopes, but

question marks hang over their ability to sustain their challenge.

They include Bayer Leverkusen, who is only two points off the pace, with Stuttgart a further point back in fourth place and Kaiserslautern and Werder Bremen joint fifth with 20 points.

Hamburg, whose departing trainer Ernst Hapoeel would like to return to his native Austria with a title triumph, has been the surprise of the season.

The departure of team captain and key midfielder Felix Magath, who took over the club's managerial reins, had been expected to check any championship ambitions.

But Hamburg struck gold with Polish close-season signing Miroslav Okonski from Lech Posen, whose abilities as an attacking midfielder have lessened the blow of losing Magath.

Bayern trainer Udo Lattek's players appear to be confined

to the goal shyness of his forwards, leaving Matthaus and his fellow midfielders to shoulder much of the responsibility. But his difficulties may be temporary.

Leverkusen, attached to the Bayer Chemicals firm, received a boost during the winter pause when international striker Herbert Waas renewed his contract for another two years. Waas, with Werder Bremen's Rudi Voeller, tops the Bundesliga scoring list with 10 goals.

Werder, just pipped for last year's title by Munich, could renew its championship threat if it avoids a recurrence of its recent injury jinx.

Kaiserslautern, like Werder, owe its high league place mainly to one man, Wolfram Wuttke, a striker-turned-midfielder who comes closest in the Bundesliga to a human dynamo. An injury to him could cost the team dearly.

## Evert-Lloyd scores win

BOCA RATON, Florida (R) — Playing in her first tournament since the U.S. Open, a nervous Chris Evert Lloyd defeated South African Elna Reinach 6-4, 6-2 in the second round of the \$250,000 Florida Women's Tennis Tournament.

American Mary Joe Fernandez, the 13th seed, also advanced with a 6-3, 6-3 first-round win

over Elizabeth Smylie of Australia.

"I was nervous, but you'd expect that after five months away," said Lloyd, ranked second in the world. "I had a lot of nervous energy waiting to play and I just wanted to get out there."

The top seeded Lloyd, 32, showed no sign of the knee injury that forced her to miss the remainder of the 1986 season, after losing to Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia in the U.S. Open semifinals last September.

"My knee was 100 per cent and I didn't get tired. It feels good to be playing again," Lloyd said. Lloyd, attempting to win this tournament for the fourth time, capitalised on a breakpoint in the seventh game of the first set to take a 4-3 lead. Continuing to force errors from the unseeded 18-year-old Reinach, the American took the first set.

## Pakistan downs India in 2nd 1-day international

CALCUTTA, India (AP) — Salim Malik cracked an unbeaten 70 Wednesday to steer Pakistan to a dramatic two-wicket win over India in the second one-day cricket international here.

Pakistan overhauled India's score of 238 for six from 40 overs with three balls to spare in a rousing climax witnessed by more than 80,000 spectators at the Eden Gardens.

Pakistan's victory puts it 2-0 ahead of India in the six-match limited overs series. The visitors had won the opening international at Zindore on Jan. 27. They have played two draws in the separate test match series.

India appeared to have Wednesday's one-day international wrapped up.

But Malik scored 35 from the next two overs of Maninder Singh and Kapil Dev to turn the tide in Pakistan's favour.

## Syria wins President Cup soccer trophy

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — Syria beat Guangdong provincial team from China 4-1 to lift the trophy in the 5th President Cup soccer tournament Wednesday.

Playing before 70,000 spectators at the Dhaka Stadium, the two top teams in the six-nation tournament drew 1-1 at halftime. Wu Qunli of China scored first; three minutes after the game started.

## Noah survives test

INDIAN WELLS, California (R) — Yannick Noah of France made a slow start in his second-round match of the \$435,000 Indian Wells Tennis Classic, but recovered in time to beat American David Pate 3-6, 6-2, 6-3.

Noah's countryman, Henri Leconte, seeded fifth, also advanced to the third round with a 6-7, 6-1, 6-4 victory over American Jonathan Canter.

Eight-seed Mikael Perfors of Sweden narrowly avoided defeat at the hands of unseeded compatriot, Ulf Stenlund, by staying off three match points in the second set, but Perfors won 4-6, 7-6, 6-2 on Tuesday.

Seventh seeded Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia and 10th seeded Emilio Sanchez of Spain also advanced.

The big-serving Noah, who had a first-round bye, said it took him time to adjust to the conditions in the new stadium court here.

Noah, seeded third, fell behind 0-3 in the first set, and after returning the score to 3-3, was disturbed by a line call and lost the remaining three games of the set.

In the second set, Noah improved his serve and returns and broke Pate again in the sixth game of the third set with a hard backhand down the line.

Games went on serve until 5-3 when Noah served out the match as Pate netted a backhand return.

"It took me a while to get used to his serve," said Noah, who is traditionally a slow starter.

Leconte also struggled in the first set.

## THE Daily Crossword by J. and P. Barrick

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Printed fabric	1 Across
6 Fiber plant	6 Down
11 Flag	11 Across
14 Means of defense	14 Down
15 Ally	15 Across
16 "Vadit?"	16 Down
17 School year hiatus	17 Across
18 NFL abbr.	18 Down
20 Loss in a way	20 Across
21 Word said in union	21 Down
22 Destination	22 Across
23 Punta del	23 Down
24 Roman numeral	24 Across
25 School year hiatus	25 Down
33 Artists	33 Across
34 Bone: pret.	34 Down
35 Dent	35 Across
36 Brand	36 Down
38 Hesitatory sounds	38 Across
40 Adams et al.	40 Down
41 Address block	41 Across
43 Hutwren	43 Down
46 Nautical rope	46 Across
46 School year hiatus	46 Down
49 Back of a book	49 Across
50 Biblical patriarch	50 Down
51 Fire-fighting aid	51 Across
53 Besides	53 Down
55 Warner spell	55 Across
59 Unit of work	59 Down
60 School year hiatus for some faculty	60 Across
63 Expert	63 Down
64 Reduce	64 Across
65 Slip	65 Down
66 Youth	66 Across
67 Measure	67 Down
68 Cat — tails	68 Across
DOWN	DOWN
1 Chess member	1 Down
2 River in "Kubie Khan"	2 Across
3 Jade	3 Down
4 Word in citations	4 Across
5 Diminutive suffix	5 Down
6 Sink	6 Across
7 Concerning	7 Down
8 Reddish pigment	8 Across
9 — standard	9 Down
10 Albanian money	10 Across
11 Composure	11 Down
12 Likeness in stone	12 Across
13 Corset adjuster	13 Down
15 Terminals	15 Across
22 Melodorous	22 Down
24 Be angry	24 Across
25 "There ought to be —"	25 Down
28 Teacher	28 Across
29 Did a nurse's job	29 Down
30 Zodiac sign	30 Across
31 Minds	31 Down
32 Plane part	32 Across
33 "There ought to be —"	33 Down
37 Insect: pref.	37 Across
38 Drums	38 Down
42 — pedicel	42 Across
44 Certain tree	44 Down
47 Become warmer	47 Across
48 Rearward	48 Down
51 Explicit	51 Across
52 Killer whale	52 Down
54 "Chair de —"	54 Across
55 Mute	55 Down
57 Famous stream	57 Across
58 Excited	58 Down
60 Calendar	60 Across
61 Swiss canton	61 Down
62 Delibes	62 Across

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Jordan takes on Dynamo Bucharest

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan's national soccer team will meet Dynamo Bucharest for an international friendly match at Amman Stadium on Sunday, Feb. 22. The match is in preparation for Jordan's Olympic qualifying matches next month in the West Asia Group 2. Dynamo is scheduled to arrive Thursday, and then play Al Ahli club on Friday before taking on the national squad.

### Castle, Bates head British Davis Cup

LONDON (AP) — Andrew Castle and Jeremy Bates head a young British team that will take on Mexico in the opening round of the Davis Cup, officials announced Wednesday. Castle, a 23-year-old who played U.S. collegiate tennis at Wichita State, has taken over the no. 1 ranking in British men's tennis from John Lloyd. Castle played for Britain against eventual-champion Australia last fall and lost both singles matches. Bates, 24, has the best Davis Cup record among current British players, with seven victories in nine singles.

### Renovations under way for Olympics

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The Seoul metropolitan government has decided to have 51 tourist hotels spend 36.9 billion won (\$43 million) for renovations in preparation for the 1988 Seoul Summer Olympic Games, officials said Wednesday. They said the projected renovations would be completed by June 1988, and that the city government would lend the hotels 5 billion won (\$5.8 million) to help finance the refurbishing. To improve hotel services, the city officials said, the city government will assist the hotels in training programmes to improve employees' speaking ability in English, Japanese, French and other foreign languages.

### Bahrain leads Arab golf tourney

BAHRAIN (R) — Hosts Bahrain took a four-shot lead over defending titleholders Morocco on the first day of the eighth Arab Golf Championship. Bahrain's three-man team carded an aggregate of 227 over the new Sakhr Course. Bahrain Open champion Abdulla Sultan shot the best round of 74 to lead the individual event on Tuesday.

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Please contact Mr. Aslam, tel: 814967

## ANNOUNCEMENT 7/87

Extension of period of Invitation to Tender for Group Medical Insurance Plan for locally recruited employees and their dependants UNRWA - Jordan.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in Jordan announces that the deadline for invitation to tender for a group medical insurance plan for its locally recruited employees published in the local papers on 16 February 1987 has been extended to 11.00 hrs of Sunday 15 March 1987.

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<p>Cinema</p> <h3>CONCORD</h3> <p>Tel: 677420</p> <h2>PRETTY IN PINK</h2> <p>Performances 1:30, 4:00, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema</p> <h3>RAINBOW</h3> <p>Tel: 625155</p> <h2>HOT MOVES</h2> <p>Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema</p> <h3>OPERA</h3> <p>Tel: 675573</p> <h2>SPRING FEVER</h2> <p>Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema</p> <h3>PLAZA</h3> <p>Tel: 677420</p> <h2>LEGAL EAGLES</h2> <p>Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p>Cinema</p> <h3>RAGHADAN</h3> <p>Tel: 622198</p> <h2>HITCHER</h2> <p>Performances 12:15, 3:40, 5:00, 9:45</p>
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## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Wednesday.

One sterling	1.5315/25	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3285/3305	Canadian dollar
	1.8240/50	West German marks
	2.0582/92	Dutch guilders
	1.5430/40	Swiss francs
	37.65/70	Belgian francs
	6.0730/80	French francs
	1296/1297	Italian lire
	153.65/75	Japanese yen
	6.4925/75	Swedish crowns
	6.9740/50	Norwegian crowns
	6.8740/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	392.20/392.70	U.S. dollars

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities again soared to record levels as Wall Street continued to climb, and on optimism over next month's budget in the wake of Tuesday's better than expected U.K. public borrowing data, dealers said.

The £3.7 billion January public sector borrowing requirement repayment has fuelled speculation that the government will have room to cut and reform taxes in the budget, which could lead to a rise in consumer spending. The surplus has also raised prospects of a cut in domestic interest rates.

At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 share index stood 23.4 points up at 1,955.4 after touching a record 1,977.4 at 1448 GMT.

Dealers said there is strong speculation that U.K. base rates, now 11 per cent, could be cut soon, with the consensus of opinion calling for such a move around the time of the March 17 budget. The previous six budgets have all been accompanied by base rate cuts.

The FTSE 100 index is widely expected to break through 2,000 before March 17, but at these lofty levels many dealers anticipate a post-budget sell-off.

YOUR DAILY  
Horoscope  
from the Carroll Righter Institute

## FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, FEB. 19, 1987

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** This is the day for analysis and study of all factors concerning your future activities. You are able to focus on the means by which you can achieve your ambitions.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Concentrate on how to get rid of frustrations. Take someone you like into your confidence.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** Situations arise that will show you what your true position is with others. Rely on wise people now.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** Get your activities nicely organized so that you gain the admiration of prominent persons.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21)** You get fine creative ideas now, so apply yourself. Your partners are very cooperative.

**LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21)** Concentrate on fundamental affairs and see how much assistance you can count on from your family.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22)** Plan how best to contact those in the same line as yours. Get into studies that can bring you advancements.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** Be more concerned with finances and other assets. Confer with those who are most successful.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** Choose your friends now that you'll want to be with in the future. Contact them with a phone call.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** Be with experts in your own field. Enjoy romance with the one you love and be charming.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** You can now go after your personal aims in a most organized way and get good results.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** Get into career and civic work with a vengeance and you can gain your objectives quite easily now.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Study new ambitions. Be practical and logically go after friends who can further your interests.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY...** he or she will be very magnetic and also be able to think logically. Give a good philosophical training of proven worth that will guide this life properly. Influential people can be most helpful to your highly intelligent son, or daughter, and much success is possible.

\*\*\*  
FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, FEB. 20, 1987

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A curious sort of day when you first are able to get information you want that can be helpful to you, but some obstacles will get in the path of your progress.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Study the promises you've devoted yourself to and keep them to the best of your ability.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** Situations arise that will shed light on affairs you need to handle. You find a way to work out a problem.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** You can handle much work intelligently now, provided you first complete a task left unfinished.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21)** A system for utilizing some special talent can get you working ideally now.

**LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21)** Don't permit a situation at home to depress you. Wait until tonight before visiting with outsiders.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22)** You can communicate well with outside contacts. Don't visit one who never fails to depress you.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** Study several ways of increasing your abundance and forget antiquated methods that gain you little.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** If you release that long-time situation that does not help you, you will be able to gain other goals quickly.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** Study whatever it is that is deterring your progress. Enjoy greater happiness with your mate.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Look to a good friend for assistance in gaining some special wish. This person, however, will expect the same.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** Get into outside activities and improve your position in life. Not a good day to ask for favors from bigwigs.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** New ideas and situations arise that can help you to advance considerably. Forget a boring activity for now.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY...** he or she will be one of those delightful young persons who will have the ability to get at the true facts of any situation that comes his, or her, way, so let those who rear this child give direct answers to any questions asked. One who will be a born organizer and very successful.

## Western banks minimise exposure to Mideast

**BAHRAIN (R) —** Western banks have further cut back their exposure to the Middle East as high debt levels, payments problems and the 6½-year-old Gulf war slow the pace of traditional lending.

Economists in the region said international banks have had to develop a new strategy to cope with two major problems.

The first is how to recoup loans already extended, particularly to companies hit hard by the Middle East recession.

The second is how to maintain a presence in the region without accumulating even more bad and doubtful loans.

Mr. Richard Stutely, chief economist at Burgan Bank in Kuwait, said: "Western banks have continued to reduce their exposure to the Middle East. But looking ahead to the 1990s there could be a pick-up and banks will want to maintain their presence for that event."

Economists estimate Middle East nations, including North African countries such as Algeria and Morocco, owe about \$130 billion, a level that has caused alarm given high dependence on oil and tension generated by the Gulf war.

Economists said most banks

are still willing to lend to all six members of the Gulf Cooperation Council — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Oman.

But of the six, only Oman has consistently borrowed to finance budget deficits and government officials in Muscat have said there will be no major new borrowing this year.

Saudi Arabia has said publicly it will not borrow to finance its planned \$14 billion 1987 budget deficit, opting instead to draw down its still substantial reserves.

Other Gulf nations seem set to tap liquidity in their domestic money markets for short-term funding and rely on a recovery in oil prices to fund day-to-day expenditure.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC) decision in December to curb oil output and boost prices has taken some pressure off Gulf economies, but there are few signs of higher government spending or

need for development finance. Banks therefore find themselves virtually cut off from the most obvious outlet in the Middle East for country lending.

One Bahrain-based economist said: "There is a group of Arab countries that many banks would not touch — Iraq, Lebanon, Morocco, Egypt, Sudan and Syria."

## Jordan maintains credibility

A second group forms a "grey area" of countries still able to borrow, but not without some bank resistance, he said.

These include North Yemen, Libya, Algeria, Tunisia and Jordan.

Jordan is arranging a \$150 million credit, but a \$200 million deal for North Yemen fell through last year as the government sought cheaper forms of lending and aid instead.

Latest figures from the Basle-based Bank for International Settlements show Middle East OPEC countries, including Iran, reduced the amount of outstanding loans to Western banks by \$1.9 billion in the first nine months of 1986.

Economists said this reflected

the virtual drying up of non-trade related credits and the fact that debt repayments now outweigh the flow of new bank funds to borrowers.

At the same time, the group of countries drew down an estimated \$12.5 billion in deposits with banks as oil prices fell sharply and budget deficits had to be bridged.

Figures from the bank, which monitors international lending worldwide, show Saudi Arabia alone withdrew an estimated \$6.3 billion in the first nine months of last year.

Bank loans outstanding to a group of non-OPEC Middle East countries — Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Syria, North and South Yemen — fell by \$1.2 billion.

Economists said new flows of bank finance to the Middle East are now mostly trade related, either through letters of credit or backed by government export credit guarantee agencies.

But even letters of credit for Iraq have virtually dried up after a series of reschedulings of short-term obligations sought by the state-owned Rafidain Bank.

In Egypt, absence of agreement on an economic programme with the International Monetary

Fund has blocked moves to reschedule government-backed debt and clear arrears.

In the absence of traditional lending, banks have been retrenching their Middle East operations, particularly in the offshore financial centre of Bahrain.

Banks are devoting much of their time to debt recovery, particularly in the corporate sector where some firms have taken advantage in debt disputes of Islamic court rulings in their favour that do not recognise the concept of interest.

International banks have started to concentrate on other forms of banking, with one recent innovation for the region a \$100 million Eurocommercial paper programme for Bahrain-based Gulf Air arranged by Gulf International Bank.

But bankers are generally sceptical about the scope for developing such instruments for Middle East companies, few of which would meet normally stringent financial requirements.

## Cheysson details drop in development aid

Meanwhile, a leading European Community (EC) official

Tuesday criticised what he called an alarming decline in development aid, calling this a major cause of a rapidly deteriorating situation in the Third World.

EC Commissioner Claude Cheysson said the time had come to take action against the "dramatic consequences" resulting from a drop in public development aid and investment in developing countries to the lowest level for many years.

He told the European Parliament during a debate on North-South dialogue that non-government aid to the Third World had slumped from \$60 billion in 1980 to \$30 billion in 1985.

Mr. Cheysson said recent statistics showed a continuing decline, and said the situation on the ground was far worse than even a year ago. Virtually all developing countries were suffering a marked decline in income per head of population.

Problems were made worse by an increase in Third World debt and a rise in interest rates. The various factors "aggravate the economic dilemma of the developing world, already having to contend with a fall in export receipts and an increase in the cost of their imports," he said.

## Reagan to campaign for American quality

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan said Tuesday he will travel across the country promoting his package of measures to make U.S. businesses more competitive with foreign manufacturers without resorting to import barriers.

President Reagan said his goal is a "quest for excellence. Call it preparing for the 21st century. In the year 2000, we want America still at the top of the charts, the front of the pack, the head of the class."

Both President Reagan and opposition Democrats have been proposing ways to increase American competitiveness in the face of record U.S. trade deficits, which last year totalled nearly \$170 billion.

On Thursday, President Reagan will send to Congress his legislative package, which calls for steps such as easing antitrust laws, changes in product-liability laws and steps to raise educational standards. He did not spell out his proposals in any detail.

A major goal is to blunt protectionist pressures in Congress and take the steam out of restrictive trade legislation.

"History has taught us that we cannot become more competitive or enjoy major job growth by restricting imports across-the-board," President Reagan said. He said that free trade "is one of the few things almost all economists agree on."

He said that for American businesses, "The quest for excellence will be the challenge to make products more efficiently, to embrace new ideas, better methods of management and new technologies."

He said he would visit schools, factories, laboratories and workplaces all across America in his campaign.

Treasury Secretary James Baker said Tuesday:

"The quickest way for us to become non-competitive is to resort to a protectionist trade bill." He warned against what he called "The Siren song of protection-

ism" now heard in Congress.

Mr. Clayton Yeutter, President Reagan's special trade representative, said, "there is no way Congress can legislate a reduction in the trade deficit," which hit \$170 billion last year.

Mr. Yeutter said the United States has satisfactorily settled seven of the eight unfair trade cases, usually involving subsidies or dumping, that it has filed against trading partners, with only the case of Brazilian computer equipment still pending.

He took issue with a suggestion that the tense, last-minute solution of a dispute over farm trade with the European Community (EC) last month showed that the administration is making tougher retaliatory threats and is more willing to go to "war with Europe" on trade matters than with Japan.

"I don't see any reason to distinguish between the two," Mr. Yeutter said. "We solved a major case on tobacco and cigarette products just before the

first of the year that involved more money than the EC controversy did, probably at least \$1 billion a year."

"We also announced a retaliation (against Japan) on leather and settled that one about a year ago... so we've done the same thing," with both sides, Mr. Yeutter added.

Mr. William Brock, Mr. Yeutter's predecessor as trade representative and now labour secretary, predicted that the drop in the value of the U.S. dollar "is going to show a fairly marked effect" this year in reducing the deficit.

Mr. Yeutter said, "obviously we would like to see Japan, (West) Germany and a lot of other countries open their markets to a greater degree than they have thus far."

"We are working very aggressively on that, more aggressively than any administration in history by far, at both the bilateral and multilateral level," he continued.

## Prices of raw materials hit lowest point in ten years

WASHINGTON (AP) — World prices for major raw materials dropped to their lowest level in more than a decade last year, according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The figures do not include the decline in the price of oil. The drop for 1986 was four per cent in terms of the U.S. dollar, the IMF said, even though the dollar itself dropped sharply during the year. In real terms, taking the fall of the dollar into account, the drop in commodity prices was estimated at more than 18 per cent.

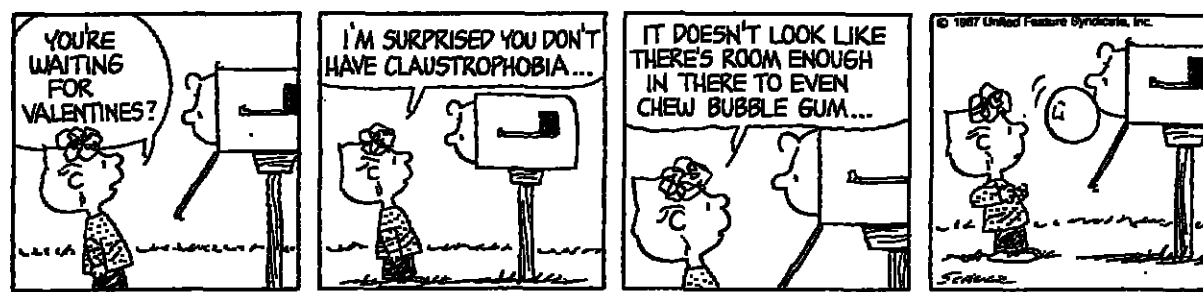
In December, prices were at their lowest point since early 1976, according to the IMF report.

Poor countries, which depend heavily on selling raw materials to buy the manufactured goods they need, are most affected by the decline. The dollar price of manufactures rose by an average of 17.5 per cent.

In dollar terms, 34 commodities fell 27 per cent below their 1980 peak.

The price for sugar was up by 49.7 per cent in the year, however, the largest average price gain. Coffee was also up, by 28.1 per cent.

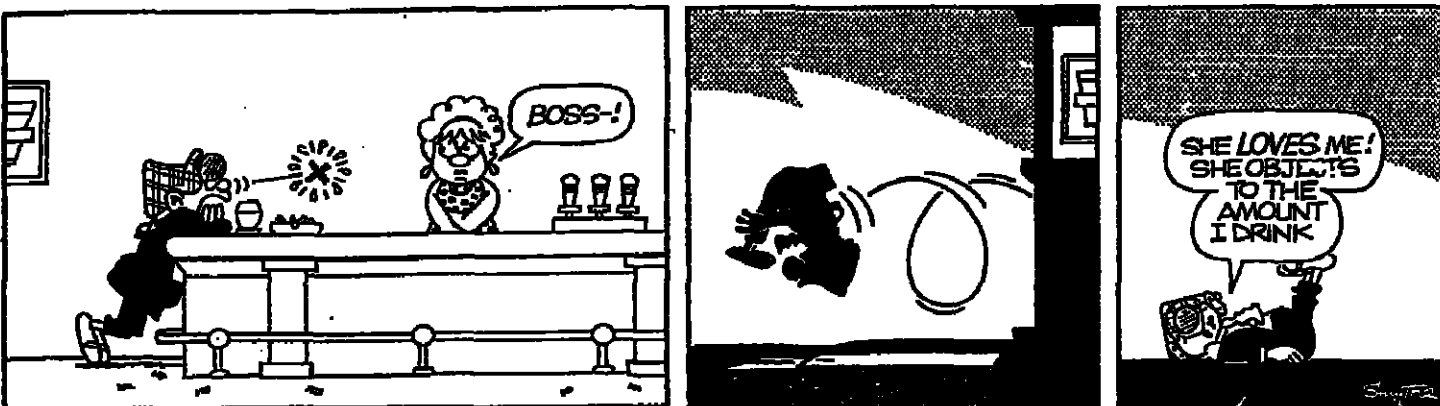
## Peanuts



## Mutt n' Jeff



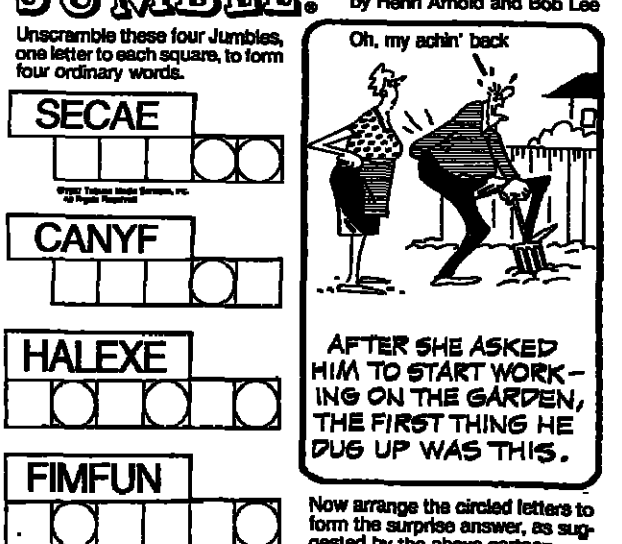
## Andy Capp



## THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



## JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Print answer here:  (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: KINKY YIELD MISFIT PICKET  
Answer: What part of a fish is like the end of a movie? — THE "FIN" IS



# Filipino rebels ambush troop train killing 1, wounding 4

## Aquino vows to keep Ramos

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — A band of 40 rebels ambushed a troop train 320 kilometres south east of Manila, killing one soldier and wounding four others, the military announced Wednesday.

Military sources said it was the first time in memory that rebels had attacked a train. The action represented a serious escalation of the 18-year-old insurgency, they said.

In other developments, President Corason Aquino told reporters Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel V. Ramos will "stay on until the end of his term" in 1989, despite a published report that pressure was mounting for her to fire him. Defense Secretary Rafael Iloilo, meanwhile, confirmed that Philippine intelligence was monitoring the activities of a retired U.S. general but had no evidence to support claims that he is recruiting mercenaries to help fight the rebels.

The Philadelphia Inquirer reported Sunday that retired Maj.

Gen. John K. Singlaub was hiring Vietnam war veterans to train Filipinos in counterinsurgency techniques, and that some of the mercenaries were already in the Philippines.

In Legazpi City, Cpl. Jerry Decano of the Philippine Constabulary said the train was bound for Manila with some 650 soldiers when it struck a land mine about 11:15 p.m. (1515 GMT) Tuesday near the town of Guinobatan in Albay province.

He said guerrillas hiding along the tracks opened fire with automatic weapons but were driven by government troops off after a 15-minute exchange of gunfire.

Decano said there were no civilian casualties but he was unsure whether any civilians were

on the train. The government's Philippine News Agency said one coach and the track were severely damaged.

The attack was the first reported in the guerrilla-infested Bicol region of south eastern Luzon since a 60-day ceasefire between the government and rebels expired on Feb. 8.

Mrs. Aquino has ordered the military to resume operations against the rebel New People's Army (NPA) but is continuing to offer peace to any guerrillas that surrender. Formal peace talks with the rebel National Democratic Front (NDF), the negotiating arm of the rebel movement, collapsed last month.

The attack was reported as most major Manila newspapers claimed right-wing dissidents within the armed forces were plotting a new destabilisation campaign against the government in connection with next week's anniversary of the overthrow of ex-President Ferdinand

Marcos. Reports quoted unnamed "military sources" as saying the plan called for strikes in various provinces of Luzon, the central Visayas islands and Mindanao on or before next Wednesday's anniversary of Mrs. Aquino's rise to power.

The reports said the plot was being hatched by Marcos loyalists who were behind last month's abortive coup attempt in the Manila area, which ended on Jan. 29 with the surrender of mutineers who held a radio-television station for 61 hours.

The plotters have abandoned plans for staging attacks in the Manila area and will centre their campaign on provinces where Marcos still enjoys support, the reports said.

Among the newspapers publishing the report were Business Day, Malaya, the Manila Times, the Manila Journal, Tempo and the Manila Standard.

# Reagan may lift Poland sanctions this week

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan might lift remaining U.S. sanctions against Poland this week, according to an administration official.

"Things are moving in that direction," the official told Reuters Tuesday night, speaking on condition he not be identified.

The announcement had been expected for months and speculation about an end to the sanctions grew after Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead visited Poland several weeks ago.

Mr. Whitehead said influential Poles, including Solidarity union leader Lech Walesa and Roman Catholic Cardinal Jozef Glemp, had urged lifting of the U.S. sanctions.

Mr. Whitehead said Mr. Walesa argued that the sanctions, imposed in 1981 when more than two years of martial law began in Poland, were hurting Poland's people more than the Polish government.

The official would not say when Mr. Reagan might lift the sanctions. The Washington Post quoted unidentified sources as saying members of the Polish-American Community had been invited to meet Mr. Reagan Thursday.

The newspaper said the gov-

ernment was reported to be trying to line up statements of support by Polish-American leaders for Mr. Reagan's decision.

The major remaining sanctions prohibit official U.S. credit to Poland and deny that country most-favoured-nation trade status, a term that implies special treatment but means only standard U.S. treatment of its regular trading partners.

Mr. Reagan imposed those sanctions, banned Polish fishing in U.S. waters and halted Polish air charter flights to the United States in connection with the Polish government's crackdown on dissent and its imposition of martial law in December, 1981.

The fishing and air travel bans were lifted in 1984, when the Polish government lifted martial law but maintained emergency powers against dissent.

U.S. allies in Europe have lifted most of their sanctions against Poland and have urged the United States to lift its sanctions as well.

Mr. Reagan's decision to do so has been widely anticipated since September, when Polish leader Wojciech Jaruzelski decided to release political prisoners, including several prominent dissidents.

# Group says drugs used by U.S. nuclear plant workers

WASHINGTON (R) — Hundreds of employees use drugs and alcohol while working at nuclear power plants in the United States, a research and advocacy group has said.

Public Citizen said it found in a study that public safety was being threatened daily by drug and alcohol use and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has all but ignored it.

Joshua Gordon, a Public Citizen nuclear analyst, said people think that nuclear plants are being run by sober technicians in white coats.

"The truth is, however, that they are run by too many people who routinely drink on the job or work under the influence of drugs," he said.

Public Citizen's report, "Nuclear power going to pot: Drug and alcohol abuse at nuclear power plants," said there has been a six-fold rise in reported drug use over the past five years — more than 120 cases of alcohol or drug use — but the NRC has taken

only minimal corrective steps. An NRC official said he had not seen the report and could not comment on it, but added the NRC last August was ready to impose "fitness for duty" regulations on the industry, but the industry itself took the initiative.

The official, acknowledging there had been some drug and alcohol abuse at nuclear plants, said the NRC was monitoring the industry's fitness for duty programmes and if they did not work out would impose its own regulations.

Public Citizen said the NRC had called the increase in drug and alcohol use "alarming" and that although monitoring abuse has been turned over to the industry, few drug and alcohol abuse prevention programmes are in place.

It said also that "where they are, the public, and in many cases, the NRC have no access to records on the programme's effectiveness."

# 61 Sri Lankans die in freak bomb blast

JAFFNA, Sri Lanka (R) — Up to 50 civilians and 11 Tamil guerrillas were killed when a powerful bomb which had been intended to blow up an army camp exploded prematurely in a Jaffna village last weekend, rebels and residents told Reuters.

The bomb, estimated by military officials to have weighed at least 150 kilos, damaged concrete houses within a 100-metre radius on Saturday at Kaitiady village in Jaffna peninsula.

Most of the victims were blown to pieces, but five bodies of guerrillas belonging to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the most dominant group fighting for an independent homeland for minority Tamils, were recovered from the scene.

It was the highest death toll the LTTE has ever suffered in a single incident and is regarded as a considerable setback as three of the group's senior officers were among those killed.

# Australia to unveil new defence white paper

SYDNEY (R) — Australia will soon unveil a defence white paper for the 1990s, underlining a more independent posture while maintaining its close security links with the United States, defence officials said Wednesday.

The blueprint, expected to be presented to the cabinet next week, will place greater emphasis on Australia's regional security commitment, particularly to the South Pacific and South East Asia, they said.

The new policy would, in effect, reject the concept of restricting Australia's military in-

terest to 1,000 nautical miles around its coastline, a policy articulated in a recent defence review, they said.

The blueprint was expected to stress the importance of offensive weapons, in sharp contrast to the review, which proposed a more defensive strategy or "strategy of denial," they said.

The white paper would set no spending goals, but contain firm commitments to a range of new defence equipment, including six new submarines, eight new frigates and possibly an airborne early warning system, they said.

# Indonesia expanding navy

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesia, the world's largest archipelago with major offshore oil deposits, is expanding its navy. Armed Forces Chief Benny Murdani has told a parliamentary group.

General Murdani, addressing the Defence Commission of parliament Tuesday, said Indonesia would receive delivery of six frigates this year.

Two bought from the Dutch navy were commissioned by Gen. Murdani at the eastern Java port of Semarang on Saturday, and the armed forces chief said four more would be bought later this year.

Purchase of the refurbished warships expands the number of frigates in the Indonesian navy by one third, from 13 to 19. Western military sources said.

Speaking to parliament Tuesday, Mr. Murdani stressed that the fleet expansion was purely for

defensive purposes and not to threaten any country, although it was the largest navy in South East Asia.

Indonesia, a country of 168 million people, is a sprawling archipelago of 13,000 islands adjoining the Pacific and Indian Oceans, as well as the South China Sea, and controlling several important international sea lanes.

It has a navy of 37,000 men, which is regarded by Western military analysts as small to defend the country's long coastline against smuggling, as well as maintain security for offshore oil bases.

The government has announced plans to build its own warships, with \$5 billion earmarked for construction of up to 23 small frigates at Indonesian dockyards over the next 30 years.

# Deng: Changes do not threaten China's policies

PEKING (R) — Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping said Wednesday changes in the country's leadership posed no threat to its "established policies," the official New China News Agency (NCNA) reported.

Mr. Deng made no direct reference to his long-standing policies of reform and opening China to the outside world, which Western diplomats said was unusual.

Diplomats say hard-liners in the party have been very high-profile since the fall of reformist Communist Party Chief Hu Yaobang last month. They are believed to have reservations about many aspects of Mr. Deng's open-door policies.

One Western diplomat said Mr. Deng's guarded comments Wednesday were a sign of a continuing rift between reformists and hard-liners in the government.

Mr. Deng told visiting Gabonese President Omar Bongo Wednesday that personnel changes would "help implement

rather than affect our established policies," the agency said. "In a word, we'll continue our work as planned," it quoted him as saying in his first public appearance since Jan. 20.

Other leaders, including Mr. Hu's interim replacement Premier Zhao Ziyang, said recently that economic reforms spearheaded by Mr. Deng since 1979 are not threatened by the month-old campaign against pro-Western political ideas.

One diplomat said Wednesday's remarks by Mr. Deng appeared to be carefully worded to avoid alienating either conservative or reform-minded elements within the government.

Chinese leaders have ordered that the ideological drive against "bourgeois liberalism" should be basically an internal party affair. But ideological education in the armed forces has been increased and students' political attitudes are subjected to increased scrutiny.

# Moscow reviewing 140 cases of jailed dissidents

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union says 150 dissidents have been freed this month from labour camps, jail or exile and a further 140 cases are under review, including that of Jewish rebel Yehonatan.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov, announcing a decision Tuesday of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, said psychiatrist Anatoly Koryagin would be freed from prison and religious activist Alexander Ogorodnikov had been released from a labour camp.

The case of Yehonatan was likely to be resolved "in a positive way," Mr. Gerasimov added.

He had said last week that about 140 political dissidents had been pardoned under a Kremlin decree after pledging to halt their activities.

Mr. Koryagin, 48, who charged the Soviet authorities with intern-

ing fellow activists in psychiatric hospitals, had been one of the leading dissidents still held.

"A decision was taken on Friday to spare him further imprisonment. Today or tomorrow he will be released," Mr. Gerasimov told a news conference.

He said certain formalities had to be completed before Koryagin left the Kiev prison to which he was moved recently from a strict-regime labour camp in Perm in the Ural Mountains.

Koryagin's wife was quoted by the Bukovsky Foundation human rights group in The Netherlands as saying she was delighted, but there was no news on whether he had been freed yet.

The Soviet authorities had been refusing her access to her husband, sentenced in 1981 to seven years in a labour camp followed by five years internal exile, she said.

# Soviet officials attack Amerika television series

WASHINGTON (R) — A Soviet embassy official has attacked the controversial U.S. television series Amerika, which depicts life in the United States under a fictional Soviet occupation, saying it will poison the minds of millions of Americans.

"For a whole week the ABC company is going to poison the minds of 70-odd million Americans," Oleg Benyukh, counsellor and head of the Information Department of the Soviet embassy, told a news conference at the embassy.

The film has drawn criticism from both the left and the right, including picketing at local television stations.

U.S. liberals have said the 14-1/2 hour ABC television series, which began Sunday and continues all week, will fuel anti-Soviet sentiment with its grim portrayal of life under a brutal Soviet occupation force 10 years from now.

Right-leaning groups have charged the film depicts a passive American attitude, which they say is unrealistic.

News reports Tuesday said about 70 million people watched the first episode.

"This film Amerika is definitely aimed at instigating hatred," Mr. Benyukh said. "It's aimed at

smearing black everything called Soviet. It's produced with the most malicious intentions ... displaying the Soviets as the worst enemy."

Asked why he thought ABC was broadcasting a series on this subject, he said, "I think that ABC is under the total censorship of gaining money ... getting money by hook or by crook."

Meanwhile a Cypriot group seeking the withdrawal of Turkish troops from Cyprus has promoted its cause during the controversial television series.

In a television commercial that aired in the Washington area on Sunday, the first night of the seven-part mini-series, the group compared the fictional occupation of the United States with that it called the "reality" in Cyprus.

"As you watch this unbelievable but frightening fantasy of your country occupied by foreign invaders ... think about this ... in Cyprus ... this horror is a reality ... we need help and understanding," it said.

The northern third of Cyprus, has been occupied since 1974 by an estimated 23,000 Turkish troops who, Greek Cypriots charge, are being strengthened and re-armed.

# COLUMNS 7&8

## Pilot may have shot himself down

LONDON (R) — A British military pilot who died when his fighter plane crashed on a low-level strafing run may have shot himself down, an official Royal Air Force (RAF) report said. Flying Officer John Sewell, 24, died when his \$7 million sterling (\$10.7 million) Harrier jump jet plunged into marshland after a practice strafing attack. After extensive investigations into the accident, on Oct. 28, 1983, it is still not clear exactly what went wrong. But crash investigators believe a shell fired from the Harrier may have ricocheted off a target and hit the plane on its training mission over an RAF bombing range in east England. The report says the pilot tried to eject but the plane ploughed into marshland before the ejection sequence was complete. "It is thought likely that the aircraft might have been struck by a ricochet which penetrated the cockpit and struck the pilot," said the report. Since the crash, all operational RAF units have been warned and shown films on the dangers of ricochets.

## Nancy Reagan not speaking to Regan

WASHINGTON (AP) — First Lady Nancy Reagan has stopped speaking to White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan and has been trying since December to have him replaced. An unnamed spokesman for Mr. Regan told the newspaper that the chief of staff spoke "virtually daily" to Mrs. Reagan. However, the Post said two well-informed sources confirmed the rift. "The consensus has formed that Regan's demise is inevitable," the newspaper quoted one Republican source close to the administration as saying.

## Renoir stolen in Dutch gallery break-in

MAASTRICHT, Netherlands (R) — Nine paintings including a landscape by French impressionist Pierre-Auguste Renoir were stolen from a gallery in this southern Dutch town, police said. The works, which also included a delicate painting of monkeys and a parrot on copper by late 16th century Flemish painter Jan Breughel, were insured for more than five million guilders (\$2.4 million). Police said the theft was believed to have been carried out at the weekend. Other paintings in the haul included a river landscape by French impressionist Camille Pissarro.

## Dismissal of charges sought against model

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados (R) — Defence lawyers for American model Jerry Hall, girlfriend of British rock star Mick Jagger, have asked a criminal court to dismiss drug possession charges against her, citing lack of evidence. Elliott Mortley, one of two lawyers defending Hall, contended the prosecution had failed to establish she had possessed the drug and that the evidence against her was "manifestly unreliable." He said a Barbados airport customs officer who testified against Hall had contradicted himself four times under cross examination. Barbados Chief Magistrate Frank King said he will rule on Friday on the defence attorney's no-case submission. Hall, 30, from Texas, was arrested last Jan. 21 after nine kilograms of marijuana was found in a package she claimed at Grantley Adams International Airport. She was ordered to surrender her passport and report to police twice a week. Hall said she had been expecting clothes for a modelling assignment in Paris.

# WEEKEND CROSSWORD

FROM PARAWAY PLACES  
By Dorothy B. Martin

Edited by Herb Stenson

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8 Put on ice

13 Reckless

17 evil

19 Condemned

21 Condemned

22 One —

23 Condemned

24 Condemned

25 Condemned

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